

## LINCOLN USD #298

Dear USD #298 Parents and Guardians:

Today, March 17, 2020, Governor Laura Kelly announced all school facilities will close for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. We are working with the Kansas State Department of Education to develop alternative learning opportunities for all students and will share more information soon.

We understand the hardship a school closure places on our families as well as the social and emotional impact it may have on our students. Our District Leadership Team and Board of Education are developing an educational plan to support student learning along with a plan to provide breakfast and lunch for our students. Specific plans will be shared with families and students in the coming days.

We are also working on other critical issues, such as what this means for our seniors and how this will affect next school year. We will provide updates on these issues as soon as the information is available. According to the guidance provided by the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE), we do not anticipate delivering any type of instruction to students prior to Monday, March 30, 2020.

Following the suggestions of KSDE, USD #298 staff will meet in small groups during the week of March 23-27, 2020, to develop instructional systems that will support student learning at all grade levels. Additionally, this planning time will allow the development of meeting the needs of students with IEP's or other accommodations that help ALL students to get the most out of their educational experiences.

We are committed to working together as a community to support one another throughout these unprecedented times, and communication will remain a top priority. We will continue to utilize sources of social media to share information like the District Website, "Live Feed" system, Facebook, text messages and phone calls as appropriate.

As a reminder, this school closure is in response to the current public health crisis. The focus should remain on preventing the spread the coronavirus, or COVID-19 as it is also referred to.

Please be mindful of the following:

- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Cover your nose and mouth when coughing and sneezing (cough/sneeze into your sleeve or a tissue).
- Please keep sick children at home.
- Avoid close contact with anyone with cold or flu-like symptoms.

Follow additional guidance from these sources:

- [National Center for Disease Control](#) (CDC)
- [Kansas Department of Health and Environment](#) (KDHE)
- Lincolncocks.com under Departments find "Health Department"

Thank you for your understanding that the final details are evolving and will be shared with you by the time that educational activities resume in USD #298 on Monday, March 30, 2020.

Sincerely,

TJ Jonsson, USD #298 Board President

Dr. Betty Summers, USD #298 Superintendent