



**RIDGEFIELD**  
SCHOOL DISTRICT  
*unlimited possibilities*

**SUPERINTENDENT**  
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March 12, 2020

Dear Ridgefield Families,

I write to you this afternoon with an update on the District's continuing work developing contingency plans in the event of a long-term closure caused by the novel coronavirus. I shared with our staff earlier today that for me, one of the most unsettling elements in this crisis is the uncertainty and lack of personal control that surrounds the entire situation. I take comfort in getting up to date information. I hope this update provides a bit of comfort to you.

Our top priority is the health and well-being of our entire community. Stopping the spread of coronavirus must be the lens through which decision-making is made. We take our role in supporting this effort seriously. To this end, we remain in regular contact with our local public health officials as well as state officials, including the Governor's Office, OSPI, and the Department of Health.

As you may already be aware, earlier today Governor Inslee closed all K-12 public and private schools in King, Pierce, and Snohomish counties, valid through April 24. That order impacts approximately 600,000 students or more than half of our entire state's K-12 population.

Effective immediately, the Ridgefield School District is implementing the following restrictions until further notice. This includes:

- Student activities and athletics are restricted to travel within the ESD 112 region (Clark, Cowlitz, Klickitat, Pacific, Skamania, and Wahkiakum counties);
  - Visiting student participants will be limited to those within the region as well;
  - Athletic practices and club meetings will continue as scheduled for now;
- Community Education activities and classes are suspended, beginning March 14;
- District facilities are closed to all external rental groups;
- Large non-essential indoor student and adult gatherings such as music and theater performances, assemblies, and team banquets are postponed or canceled.

Please know, additional sanitizing and disinfecting protocols are already in place at all District facilities. However, the District's diligent sanitizing procedures do not replace best practices of remaining home when students exhibit flu-like symptoms, proper handwashing, covering your coughs and sneezes, and adhering to social-distancing practices wherever possible.

We will continue to provide you with updates.

Sincerely,

Dr. Nathan McCann  
Superintendent