

Dear Sargent Public Schools Families and Community Members:

Administration from the Sargent Public School District is carefully monitoring the activity of COVID-19. Currently, we are not aware of any COVID-19 virus in our district. This virus is new, and we will learn much more about it over time, but we believe it is wise for us all to prepare now in order to better manage the adjustments we may need to make in our daily activities in the future.

As COVID-19 continues to spread, we must prepare for the possibility that our school system may be impacted by cases either directly with students or staff contracting the virus, or indirectly through a closure. Closing a school is one of the current options available to help control the spread of the virus by limiting inter-personal contact, but please note that this is not yet a recommended measure, and we will follow the guidelines provided by the NDE, CDC, and local health departments as to when or if this may be necessary.

Additional steps in preparation that should be taken include the following:

- Make sure your contact information and emergency contacts in regards to your student at school are up to date.
- Follow information and advice from our local health department, which is the Loup Basin Public Health Department.
- Please keep your student home when sick. (24 hours fever free w/o medication to return school)
- For parents, plan for what you would do with your children if school were to be closed for an extended period of time.

Steps we are taking at Sargent Public Schools:

- Increasing the efforts of our custodial staff in enhanced cleaning measures that we already have in place due to Influenza A and B.
- Introducing and enforcing handwashing protocols at regular intervals throughout the day.
- Close screening of students who exhibit symptoms and if a student is ill we will send them home.
- We are preparing a plan to provide instruction to our students in the event that we close for an extended period of time.

We will continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation and we will follow the guidance provided by the CDC, NDE, and local health officials. We will make decisions on the participation by our students in school events and activities on the information available at that time. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at 308-527-4119.

Thank you for your support of Sargent Public Schools

Wayne Ruppert, Superintendent

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