

19 March 2020

Dear Bering Strait School District Family,

This letter is to update you on the changing situation regarding COVID-19 and plans the District is putting in place to help slow the spread of this virus in our community and maintain student learning as this situation develops.

UPDATED INFO: March 19, 2020 @ 5:00 PM

Today, March 19, 2020, I met with the BSSD Regional Board Executive Committee and recommended the new following guidelines, effective immediately.

I have extended our school closure through April 5, 2020. Schools will tentatively reopen for students Monday, April 6, 2020.

Any school employee, certified or classified, that has traveled outside of their community, since March 1, 2020, **MUST** self-quarantine in their housing for 14 days upon return. This includes any employee who shares a housing unit with anyone that has traveled outside the community, or has family visiting that has traveled from outside the community. Employees shall plan to work from home and prepare to provide educational services per guidance that will be provided later.

Only staff that have remained in their community, and had no visitors, in the last 14 days will be permitted to be in their schools or classrooms.

CHANGE: Please note that Day 1 of your quarantine will now begin upon your arrival back in your housing unit. CHANGE

Any staff that are in high risk categories, and do not feel they safely can get to their school or classroom, should notify their Principal and request additional consideration for working from home.

Currently, all staff that are self-quarantined or that receive approval of their additional consideration will be paid, without deduction from their personal sick or personal leave.

Staff that need to remain home due to childcare challenges or other personal reasons, will be required to use the appropriate leave as normal and required by the district.

If you are showing symptoms or traveled outside the state in this time period, it is recommended that you take your temperature with a thermometer two times a day and

monitor for fever. If you are sick or show signs of a fever (over 100.3), cough, or shortness of breath, please call your health care provider. Do not report to clinics or hospitals without calling first.

We will continue to monitor the situation in the State and our communities and provide updated information on school operations as necessary.

In closing, please remember that the most important action we can all continue to take is to practice active personal hygiene. This includes washing our hands, covering our coughs, and taking other measures to limit person-to-person spread.

Respectfully,

Bobby Bolen, Ed.D.
Superintendent