

Notification from: **Seward Public Schools ADMIN**

Dear Parents/Guardians

The emergence of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in China and its spread to other parts of the world and now Nebraska has generated a great deal of news and questions over the last few weeks. The recent closing of two districts in Nebraska has also brought up a lot of questions in the district's response if we had to close school for a period of time. More information can also be accessed at the NDE website on COVID-19 <https://www.education.ne.gov/publichealth/resources/>.

At Seward Public Schools, we want to assure families that we are taking all the essential precautions and we have protocols in place to respond to any outbreak of communicable diseases within our schools. We will work closely with the Four Corners Health Department, Nebraska Department of Education and the CDC as they monitor the situation and we will follow their instructions.

While we are hopeful that we can continue classes as normal, the health department and/or other state agencies along with me may have to close schools for a period of time. In the event that our school district was closed, it is vital to us that we provide a sense of normalcy for our students by providing E-Learning. Our teachers have spent time preparing instructional materials that are timely and relevant to what they are learning in their classrooms. In the event that the school is closed, and we will be doing an E-Learning day, students and parents should refer to their email regarding their learning for the day.

We realize that not every family may have a device such as an iPad, Chromebook, laptop, desktop that can be used for instruction in grades K-8th grade. If you **do not have access** to a device, please list your name, grade, teacher, and contact information on this [survey](#). We will communicate with you regarding how to access these devices if they are needed.

We will follow our protocols and continue to communicate with families by email and phone using our One Call Now Messenger system and on our website if there are any changes or concerns.

We'd also like to take this opportunity to remind you it is still cold and flu season and we encourage everyone to continue to practice good hygiene and virus prevention practices. This includes:

- Maintain good hand hygiene by washing your hands often with soap and water, especially after coughing or sneezing.

- Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze using a tissue or your elbow.

- Stay home or keep your child home if there is a fever of at least 100 degrees. Your child must be fever-free without the aid of medication for at least 24 hours before returning to school.

- Get your flu shot when possible.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your health care provider or the Four Corners Health Department. You can also visit the Centers for Disease Control website for more information about COVID-19.

Sincerely,
Dr. Fields