

March 17, 2020

To all USD 345 staff and families:

Today, March 17, 2020 Governor Laura Kelly announced all school facilities will be closed for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. At this time, all school activities (including graduation, prom, spring sports, etc.) are postponed, indefinitely. Our current situation prohibits us from identifying specific dates for rescheduling.

We have been working on contingency plans, including how we can meet the continuous learning needs of our students. In addition, we continue to provide breakfast and lunch to our students and stand ready to provide social and emotional support to our students and staff as needed. Principals are in buildings during regular school hours and are available. Should you need any assistance, please call ahead to your building and schedule a visit so we can be ready to assist you quickly and effectively. We remain committed to helping our families and staff in any way we can.

Our staff and board of education are also working on other critical issues, such as what this means for our class of 2020, how this will affect next school year, and what impact this will have on our employees. We will provide updates on these and many other issues as soon as the information is available.

The Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) has assembled a task force to establish guidelines for school districts in creating continuous learning plans during extended school closures. The USD 345 Teaching and Learning Department will closely monitor the work of KSDE while collaborating with our own principals, instructional coaches, and teachers to develop and implement learning opportunities for our students.

As you know, we have many online resources that are already in place so you may already be in contact with your student's teacher(s), and that's great. Our goal is to create a continuous learning plan throughout the district that meets the needs of all students, while causing the least amount of strain on our parents. To help during our planning stages, we're asking all parents/guardians to please fill out this quick survey so we can better understand your current access to technology while your child is away from school.

[Parent/Guardian Internet/Technology Home Access Survey Link](#)

Grab-and-go lunches continue to be served as a drive thru at Logan Elementary School (1124 NW Lyman Rd) for children ages 1-18, Monday - Friday from 11:00 am to noon. Please stop by and grab lunch and breakfast for your kids. We'll be serving vehicles as they go by the front entrance of the building. We're also in coordination with Topeka North Outreach to continue their Operation Backpack weekend food sack program from this site on Fridays.

We understand the financial impact a school closure may have on our staff members. For this reason, all USD 345 staff will be paid according to their contracted hours and wages for 2019-20 in an attempt to cause the least amount of disruption and financial hardship for our employees and families. We are committed to working together as a community to support one another throughout these unprecedented times.

Please stay abreast of the latest information on the [CDC](#) and newly launched [KDHE COVID-19 website](#), and of course, we are placing all public notifications on our [Seaman Schools Coronavirus Page](#). We continue to stay in close contact with public health officials as we respond to this ever-changing situation.

Sincerely,

Dr. Steve Noble  
Superintendent