Friday, March 13, 2020

SUBJECT: CANCELLATION: COVID-19 UPDATE

On Thursday, March 12, Oregon's Governor ordered the closure of all Oregon public schools from March 16 through March 31 (staff will report back to work on March 30). This action is meant to slow the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19) in our state and protect the health and wellbeing of our students, families, staff, and the broader community. We realize this closure represents a significant disruption to you and your family. We appreciate your cooperation as we all work together to minimize the impact of this virus.

We will continue to communicate any changes as they occur at the Neah-Kah-Nie School District website www.nknsd.org. We will also update our homepage https://nknsd.org/2020/03/12/coronavirus-updates/. We know you will have a lot of questions and we will work to provide regular and timely updates.

We will work closely with our state and community partners to minimize the impact of this closure on you and your family. We will provide additional information regarding supports, services, and resources as soon as possible. We appreciate your patience as we work together to address this emerging and rapidly changing situation.

During this time of closure, public health agencies recommend avoiding large group gatherings and public venues and practicing healthy hygiene. Students, families, and everyone in our community can best support our efforts by washing hands frequently, covering mouths when coughing or sneezing, and using hand sanitizer. Those experiencing symptoms of a cold or the flu should stay at home. If you are concerned about symptoms, please contact your health care provider.

What you can do to help keep your child healthy

- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. (If soap is unavailable, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.)
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a cleaning spray or wipe.
- Practice social distancing - whenever possible, stay at least 3 feet away from others.

The safety, health, and well-being of our students remains our highest priority. We will continue to work in close partnership with public health authorities to minimize both the spread of coronavirus and the impact of these closures on students and families.

Additional information about COVID-19 can be found at healthoregon.org/coronavirus or by calling 211.

Thank you,

Paul Erlebach, Superintendent
Neah-Kah-Nie School District