



LINCOLN COUNTY R-IV SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Daniel Williams,
Superintendent

March 6, 2020

Winfield School Families and Employees,

The Winfield School District would like constituents to be aware of measures taken to ensure a safe learning environment during the flu season. Students are educated by qualified nurses to use proper hand sanitizing techniques and other preventative measures to avoid spreading contagions in the school. Our custodial staff are equipped with sanitizers that are capable of neutralizing the common flu and the novel coronavirus. In fact, our attendance has shown an increase through the first few months of the flu season in comparison to the last 9-year average. It is important to focus on facts and utilize trusted sources for information. Please read the following information to help protect your families and research the resources provided at the end of this document.

Currently Known Facts for COVID-19:

- ✓ Novel coronavirus is a new virus that has been found to cause respiratory illness in humans. You may also hear it being referred to as COVID-19.
- ✓ The signs and symptoms include fever, cough, and shortness of breath. These symptoms are similar to the flu
- ✓ It can be spread from person to person.
- ✓ There are cases in the US. However, there are NO cases in Missouri or, more specifically, Lincoln County as of Friday March 6th at 10:30 a.m.
- ✓ There is currently NO vaccine.
- ✓ At this time, the only treatment is to treat the symptoms that patients are experiencing.

Prevention:

- ✓ Avoid those who are sick
- ✓ Practice PROPER HAND WASHING often and for at least 20 seconds with soap and water.
- ✓ Avoid touching your eyes, mouth, or nose with unwashed hands.
- ✓ Use hand sanitizer with 60% or more alcohol only when soap and water are not available.
- ✓ Stay home if you are sick.
- ✓ Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue or the inside of your elbow.
- ✓ Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Dealing with Emotions, Bullying, or Uncaring Behaviors:

- ✓ Diseases do not discriminate, and neither should we. Individuals of Asian descent or heritage are no more likely to contract the Coronavirus than anyone else.
- ✓ If students are feeling concerned or worried, encourage them to talk to a parent, teacher, or another trusted adult. Remind kids of the things they can control to help decrease the risk - wash hands, cover sneezes and coughs.
- ✓ Be aware of your own behaviors. It's important for parents and teachers to understand the effect their own behaviors and emotions can have on children. If you're visibly upset or react in a way that suggests you're fearful, they'll take their cues from you. Just remember to stick to the facts that we know. Be honest and communicate at a developmentally appropriate level.
- ✓ Ensure you are using credible sources for information like the World Health Organization, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, and the Lincoln County Health Department. Additional resources are listed below.

Resources:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - www.cdc.gov/COVID19
- Lincoln County Health Department - <https://lchdmo.org/covid19>
- World Health Organization - "Novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV)"
- NY Times - "Talking to Teens and Tweens About the Coronavirus"
- CBC Canada - "Get the Facts on the Coronavirus"
- NPR - "What Kids Want to Know About the Coronavirus"