



Dear Kinnikinnick Parents and Guardians,

The Winnebago County Health Department has made a recommendation to suspend social and public gatherings out of an abundance of caution for the community and to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Their recommendation did not include canceling school or child-care programs. As such, please see the following precautions that will go into effect beginning Friday, 3/13/2020.

1. The district will follow this recommendation by canceling all sporting events, PTO events, concerts, performances, and competitions beginning Friday, 3/13/2020 until further notice. This applies to those events that are hosted by the district or its schools, as well as events hosted by other entities that our students would attend as part of a district group, team, or club.
2. We will continue having practices, club meetings, Kids Care or small student gatherings on school property that involve only Kinnikinnick District students.
3. We will cancel field trips from Friday, March 13 through Friday, March 20. Field trips after March 20 may be canceled at a future date pending further updates from the Winnebago County Health Department.
4. All facility use agreements for outside groups that utilize our buildings will be suspended until further notice.

It is important to note there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 within our schools or Winnebago County at this time. Instead, this is a precautionary measure intended to minimize the possibility of community spread.

I understand that many of you will have concerns regarding the potential impact to your children. The decision to hold or cancel school or related activities is made daily in coordination with the Winnebago County Health Department and Illinois Department of Public Health.

The Illinois State Board of Education has encouraged all schools to establish e- learning plans. If approved, the e-learning plans would be utilized if schools need to be closed for an extended period of time to ensure the continuity of education. The e-learning plan promotes remote educational supports, activities and opportunities for students during school closures. We will be sending more information on e-learning shortly.

We expect to send out updated travel recommendations next week before spring break.

Thank you for your time and understanding. Information regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19) can be found online using the resource links provided below.

Illinois Department of Public Health

<http://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/diseases-and-conditions/diseases-a-z-list/coronavirus>

Center for Disease Control

<https://www.cdc.gov>

Illinois State Board of Education

<https://www2.illinois.gov/ready/Pages/default.aspx>

Your partner in education,

*Keli Freedlund*

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Superintendent