

Park County School District No 6 Families,

I would like to thank the families and staff of PCSD #6 for your support and patience as the impact of the COVID-19 virus begins to impact our community. We have been working closely with our local public health experts to provide guidance in our decisions moving forward. While we do not have any confirmed cases at this time, we are taking preventative measures to reduce the possibility of spreading the virus.

After consulting with public health officials, and state and local officials, including Governor Mark Gordon and State Superintendent of Public Instruction Jillian Balow, we have decided to **close all PCSD #6 schools starting tomorrow, Monday, March 16th. Schools will remain closed through at least Friday, April 3rd.** We will communicate with families as soon as we have the necessary information to make future decisions.

The District will be sending out information on the method we will use to coordinate meals for students receiving Free/Reduced lunch services. While some districts are transitioning to remote and online learning, we have not made a decision regarding this and will continue to evaluate these opportunities. In the coming days, we will notify families through our website and Facebook page about our decision to provide instruction during the school closure.

Please remain vigilant in your prevention efforts by washing hands frequently, covering a cough or sneeze with a sleeve or tissue, and staying home during this closure. It is incumbent on us all to take these preventative measures to help our community stay healthy, especially those over the age of 60 or with underlying health conditions.

We understand children and families may have heightened concerns about exposure to this virus which causes stress and anxiety. The following resources may be helpful in visiting with your child about this situation:

- The National Association of School Psychologists:
[https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-climate-safety-and-crisis/health-crisis-resources/talking-to-children-about-covid-19-\(coronavirus\)-a-parent-resource](https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-climate-safety-and-crisis/health-crisis-resources/talking-to-children-about-covid-19-(coronavirus)-a-parent-resource)
- PBS (<https://www.pbs.org/parents/thrive/how-to-talk-to-your-kids-about-coronavirus>)

As always, safety is our primary concern. Thank you for your support as our district works to ensure the health and wellbeing of our entire community. Please refer to the district website (www.park6.org) for ongoing updates.

Peg Monteith, Interim Superintendent