



March 13, 2020

Dear Metro-Area Families,

On behalf of our school districts, please know that we are working together and are in constant communication regarding the COVID-19 virus. We are using guidance from the CDC, Iowa Department of Public Health, Linn County Public Health, and the Iowa Department of Education to guide decision-making regarding school closures. We are monitoring the situation daily/hourly and will make decisions based on available information.

- As of today, there are no founded cases of COVID-19 in Linn County
- As of today, there are 16 cases of COVID-19 in Iowa, most related to a cruise to Egypt-- none in Linn County
- The Iowa Department of Public Health is not advising school closures at this time

*"The health and safety of our students, teachers, and faculty is a top priority," said Gov. Reynolds. "At this time, the Iowa Department of Public Health is not advising any school closures. We are finalizing key decision points needed to mitigate COVID19 to provide school districts with thorough guidance. This situation remains very fluid, and we will continue to equip local school districts with the information they need."*

Our school districts are on spring break next week. We will continue to monitor all information available and make decisions that keep the safety, health, and well-being of our students, families, staff members, schools, and community paramount.

The collaboration amongst our school districts and our community regarding this world-wide concern is essential. We are very proud to serve all of you, and we will communicate with you if there are any changes or recommendations regarding school closures.

In Your Service,

Noreen Bush  
Cedar Rapids Community School District  
Superintendent

Douglas Wheeler  
College Community School District  
Superintendent

Janelle Brouwer  
Marion Independent School District  
Superintendent

Shannon Bigard  
Linn-Mar Community School District  
Superintendent

Kimberly Hermsen  
Xavier Catholic Schools & Archdiocese of Dubuque  
Superintendent