Gov. Reynolds recommends lowa schools close for four weeks, will hold a press conference tomorrow

Sun, 03/15/2020 - 20:08

Upon discovery of the existence of substantial community spread of COVID-19 in the state, Gov. Reynolds is recommending that Iowa schools close for four weeks.

"Based on new information today from the Iowa Department of Public Health, now is the time to move to the next level of response," Gov. Reynolds stated. "I am now

recommending that all Iowa schools close for a period of four weeks to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19."

Gov. Reynolds released the following video statement, it can be viewed here.

Gov. Reynolds is making this recommendation in consultation with the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) and based on CDC guidelines.

Earlier today, IDPH was notified of four additional positive cases of Iowans with COVID-19, for a total of 22 positive cases. According to IDPH, two cases are related to international travel. The individuals are residents of Allamakee County, one is a middle-age adult between 41-60 years; the other is a child, age 0-18 years. The third case is a middle-age Johnson County resident with no identified travel-related risk or exposure to a known COVID-19 case, and is considered the second case of community spread in Iowa. The