

March 13 – Update from Superintendent Rendle:

Good morning...some notes to share from my MDE/MDH and Asst. Commissioner of Education meeting this morning. Keep in mind, this info may change on the hour and the situation is fluid.

There are 14 cases in the state. None are in a current student/staff school community.

MDE/MDH Does NOT recommend closing schools at this time. Why? Children 19-under are lowest risk, kids need access to food, the negative impact it would have on the medical work force, data has shown it has not made that big a difference in the states which have closed schools.

Field Trips: Points of consideration...where are you going, how big is the group, can you be flexible and reschedule.

School recommendations: Social distancing, stagger recess, plan for the possibility for school closing and another way to deliver education. Our small schools are in a good position to deal with these recommendations. (I was sitting with a Supt from No. St. Paul and she has 11,000 kids in her schools)

If we do get a confirmed case in our school, we contact MDE/MDH and they would walk us through the process.

Final talking points:

- 1) There is discussion about if and when schools might be cancelled.
- 2) Our district will take its direction from MDE/MDH
- 3) Parents and teachers should always make their own decisions on what is in their best interest.