



Inyo County Office of Education
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Barry D. Simpson, County Superintendent

To: The Community of Inyo County
From: Barry Simpson, Inyo County Superintendent of Schools
Subject: COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Facts and Protocol
Date: March 12, 2020

I would like to take a moment to inform all community members that we are working diligently and taking the Coronavirus issue very seriously. We have gathered information from a recent teleconference with Governor Newsom and a meeting with local administrators of the Inyo County Public Health Department, Northern Inyo Health Care District staff and all Inyo County School District Superintendents. As stewards of a community's most valuable resource — its children — school trustees have a responsibility to treat this outbreak with the utmost seriousness.

Based on recent public health guidance, we are cancelling or postponing most school events until further notice. In the best interest of public safety, we feel this is the best course of action to protect members in the community, especially those at higher risk such as those over the age of 65 and those with compromised health issues.

At this moment, we have no reports of anyone in Inyo County having tested positive for COVID-19 but that could change at any given moment. In the event that a student or school staff member is reported to have tested positive, the public health department will immediately report it to the school with the utmost confidentiality. At that point, school officials will discuss next steps based on the guidelines provided by the State of California – Health and Human Services Agency/ California Department of Public Health and our local health department officials.

Rest assured, your school superintendents and administrators will see to it that school health offices, custodial staff and teaching staff stay well informed and take necessary precautions to help reduce the spread of this virus. Healthy children are at low risk for serious side effects of this virus. The concern is children with the virus passing it onto others in the high risk category.

CDPH School Guidelines:

https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/School%20Guidance_ADA%20Compliant_FINAL.pdf

Up to date information regarding COVID-19

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/>

Sincerely,


Barry Simpson
Inyo County Superintendent of Schools