

Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D., Commissioner

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# NEBRASKA

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

**To: Nebraska Public School Superintendents, Non-Public School Administrators, & ESU Administrators**  
**CC: State Board of Education, Commissioner's Cabinet and NDE Leadership**  
**From: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Commissioner of Education**

Good Afternoon,

As discussions and concerns over a possible outbreak of the Coronavirus COVID-19 continue, I wanted to reach out to you with some new information the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) has received.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has posted specific guidance for administrators of K-12 schools and childcare programs at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/guidance-for-schools.html>. This guidance is based on what is currently known about the transmission and severity of Coronavirus disease and will be updated as needed and as additional information becomes available.

Please know the state agency leadership is monitoring possible impacts and seeking ways to assist and help schools and districts. As such, we have created an online resource page with links to information and updates to provide more guidance statewide for schools. The website is evolving and we will continue to update it in the coming days and weeks. You can access the website at: <https://www.education.ne.gov/publichealth/>.

This is a dynamic situation and information will likely change moving forward. At this point, I simply ask that school officials make the best decisions regarding the safety and wellbeing of their students, staff, and communities. If the need arises, we will address the long-term policy questions related to rules and regulations.

The NDE will be working closely with state health officials to monitor the situation and I recommend schools and districts collaborate with state and local health departments as we collectively manage this situation.

Thank you for your attention and please feel free to share this information with others as necessary.

Sincerely,

Matthew L. Blomstedt