

Chewelah Schools – *Where Dreams Begin*

Our Mission: Ensuring learning for all students

UPDATE – Health Concerns related to COVID-19

March 12, 2020

Dear Chewelah School District Families,

As the potential for the spreading of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) into our local communities increases, district staff want to assure you that we are monitoring the most current information and guidance from the Northeast Tri County Health District (NETCHD), the Washington Department of Health, and the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction to manage our responses in this rapidly-evolving situation.

The health and safety of our students, staff, and visitors are our top priority. Our actions are and will be centered on attaining the best outcomes for our students, staff and community. The District Administration, School Nurse, and Program Directors met this afternoon to begin developing a contingency plan for responding to recommended actions from Tri County Health and other government agencies.

Proactive Measures

In the meantime, District staff have been taking precautions and obtaining additional disinfectants to deal with an infection of any kind. Administration, custodial staff, and our school nurse have been working with building staff to intensify the cleaning and sanitizing of highly touched surfaces and to ensure stocking of additional cleaning and handwashing supplies.

Updates as of 3/12/20:

Chewelah School District is **postponing** until further notice large indoor events that would place potentially at-risk individuals in close proximity. Currently the following events are impacted:

Jenkins Band Concert - March 19 -- MAT Cats Wrestling - March 21 -- Junior high Basketball

More information about the steps you and your family members should take to stay healthy and minimize exposure to and spreading of this virus can be found on the following websites:

Northeast Tri County Health District: <https://www.netchd.org/illness-disease/coronavirus/>

Washington Department of Health: <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/Coronavirus>

Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI): <https://www.k12.wa.us/about-ospi/press-releases/novel-coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-resources>

Sincerely,

Richard McFarland
Chewelah School District Superintendent