

# SOUTH BROWN COUNTY

UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT 430

522 Central  
Horton, Kansas 66439-1714



Telephone: (785) 486-2611  
Fax: (785) 486-2496

March 20, 2020

Dear South Brown County USD 430 School Community,

As many of you know, Governor Laura Kelly on March 17, 2020, announced all school facilities would close for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. We have been working with the Kansas State Department of Education to develop a Continuous Learning Plan for all students. Currently, Kansas leads the country in developing a comprehensive plan to continue with education while buildings are closed. Kansans have been given a great opportunity to help guide and shape the future of education!

Each day this week, the administration has been involved in webinars with the state department receiving guidance on how to proceed. On Thursday morning, the administration team received *The Continuous Learning Plan* from the Kansas Task Force Team and began reviewing the document. Friday, we held a modified District Leadership Team meeting (per CDC regulations - fewer than 10 people and 6 feet apart), where we discussed moving forward.

The Kansas Department of Education will be issuing waivers for the mandatory 1,116 hours needed for a full school year. In order to receive the waiver, districts must abide by the following conditions:

1. Develop and implement a Continuous Learning Plan.
2. Pay all staff as if we were in school.

I will need to submit the official waiver application by April 8. Teachers will begin meeting, starting Monday, March 23rd throughout the week to develop the USD 430 Continuous Learning Plan.

We understand the hardship a school closure places on our families as well as the social and emotional impact it may have on our students. We will continue the Grab and Go meal program through the end of the school year. Our year will conclude on May 19, 2020.

We are committed to working together as a community to support one another throughout these unprecedented times, and communication will remain a top priority.

At this time we are aware that there are still several questions unanswered or that need to be discussed. As we move forward, with the help of the Kansas Department of Education several of these questions will be addressed.

As always, I appreciate the support you give to our school system and the opportunity to allow us the chance to continue working with your child. If you have questions please contact your building principal or myself.

Sincerely,

Jason Cline  
Superintendent  
USD 430 South Brown County

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March 17, 2020

Dear South Brown County USD 430 School Community,

Under the executive order of Governor Laura Kelly, school as we know it will be closed. Due to these new developments, we are working on making changes for our district - staff, students, and families.

Currently, a Kansas Task Force Team is developing recommendations for schools to follow to help align the vision of the remainder of the school year. During our daily briefing with Superintendents and Principals, we were instructed that we will be receiving this information by the end of the day on Wednesday. After receiving the recommendations USD 430 will implement the following timeline to continue the education of our youth in South Brown County:

- Week of March 16-20: Continue to deep clean all buildings, collect information from the Department of Education and Kansas Department of Health and Education. All school buildings will remain closed.
- Week of March 23-27: Bring in certified staff to develop a plan based on recommendations from the Kansas Task Force Team. Buildings will remain closed to the public and non-essential staff.
- Week of March 30: Begin new plan for the remainder of the school year.

As we move through this transition period please be flexible and patient as we work out the kinks to make the education experience the best we can for all of our students. This is a fluid situation and the above timeline could change based on the information provided from the Kansas Department of Education.

We are still advised by the CDC to not have groups of 50 in one area. President Trump, stated yesterday that we should be in groups of less than 10. If this continues to be the guidelines all spring activities and events will be canceled.

I will do the best I can to keep everyone updated on the changes as we move forward. Thank you for your support and dedication to our school and community.

Sincerely,



Jason Cline  
Superintendent  
USD 430 South Brown County

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March 17, 2020

Dear South Brown County School Community,

With the current situation with school closing USD 430 would like to offer any student ages 1-18 an opportunity to receive a free lunch and breakfast. Over the last few days, we have been organizing and planning a food service program to help meet the nutritional needs of our students.

Beginning Wednesday, March 18, 2020, a non-congregate school meals program will be available to any person age 1 to 18 years of age. Students must pick up the meals from the designated location. This will be accomplished in a "drive-thru" fashion. A breakfast for the following day will also be served with lunch. Children must be present for meals to be received.

Time: 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Location: Horton Elementary School (drop off/pick up line in front of the school)

When picking up meals you will be notified of which items are perishable at room temperature. These items will need to be consumed, refrigerated, or thrown away within one hour of pickup for safety purposes. In the event of additional school closures, more locations may be added.

Thank you for your patience and flexibility during this time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jason Cline".

Jason Cline  
Superintendent  
USD 430 South Brown County

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March 15, 2020

Dear South Brown County USD 430 School Community,

Under the recommendation of Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) and the Commissioner of Education, Dr. Randy Watson, USD 430 South Brown County will be closed the week of March 16-22. USD 430 was given this recommendation during a meeting with the Commissioner on Sunday, March 15, 2020. Dr. Randy Watson strongly suggested that all schools coming off of spring break and those schools that have spring break later in the year to be closed for the upcoming week. Throughout the week school districts will have daily briefing with the state department on the development of COVID-19.

USD 430 closure will include all activities and practices. Only essential personnel will be allowed on school grounds while the district is closed. If you have questions please call the building principals or the board office.

I would advise students and families to follow the recommendation set forth by the CDC and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. More information can be found on their websites:

[www.cdc.gov/COVID19](http://www.cdc.gov/COVID19)

<http://www.kdheks.gov/coronavirus>

I appreciate your understanding and flexibility during this challenging and uneasy time for our community, the State of Kansas and our country. I assure you that USD 430 will take all recommendations by license professionals into consideration.

Sincerely,



Jason Cline  
Superintendent  
USD 430 South Brown County