



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Lyon County, Kansas

420 W. 15th, Ave., Emporia, KS 66801
(620) 208-3741

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Verlin Conkle, PIO,
Flint Hills Community Health Center
Lyon County Public Health
Email: vconkle@flinthillshealth.org

EMPORIA, KANSAS March 14, 2020, Lyon County Public Health in partnership with Lyon County Unified School Districts 251, 252, 253 and based on the Center for Disease Control [Considerations for School Closure](#) at this time is recommending the Lyon County school districts USD 251, 252, 253 remain open.

Briefly stated the Center for Disease Control recommends, “Factors for Consideration for School Closure Closing schools early in the spread of disease for a short time (e.g., 2 weeks) will be unlikely to stem the spread of disease or prevent impact on the healthcare system, while causing significant disruption for families, schools, and those who may be responding to COVID-19 outbreaks in health care settings. It may also increase the impact on older adults who care for grandchildren. Waiting to enact school closures until at the correct time in the epidemic (e.g., later in the spread of disease) combined with other social distancing interventions allows for optimal impact despite disruption.”

We will be following the Center for Disease Control guidelines and will be re-evaluating once a presumed positive case has been received from a school district.

By working together, each one of us has an opportunity to minimize the spread of disease. Everyone should be using protective measures which include washing your hands for at least 20 seconds, covering your mouth when you cough, avoid touching your face, mouth, and eyes and stay home when you are sick.