



Dear Parents and Guardians:

Based on the public health concerns, we want to be consistent with most of the school districts in the region to prevent the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-9). The Sumter County School District will be closed for two weeks starting Monday, March 16 through Friday, March 27, 2020. We are scheduled to reopen on Monday, March 30, 2020. We will keep you posted through robo calls, email and news media if there are any extensions beyond March 30.

I am not an expert but my personal concern about this situation is the fact that closing facilities and operations when no one is being quarantined is difficult to understand. I do, however, understand that closures are meant to slow the spread of germs but people will continuously be in contact with others. The germ will last up to nine hours outside of the body which puts people at risk for longer periods of time. The spread of the virus can be much worse at the end of the two-week period. That is why I do not understand why everyone is closing at this time. However, we will err on the side of caution in this instance.

I would like to encourage students to continue to read at home and work on various instructional programs such as iReady (K-8) and USATestPrep (9-12).

There will be no school events during this time.

Please be vigilant, stay safe, practice proper hygiene and stay home as much as possible to prevent the spread of this virus.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Torrance D. Choates, Ed.D." The signature is fluid and cursive.

Torrance D. Choates, Ed.D.
Superintendent