

LINCOLN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

COVID19 UPDATE

Last night I walked through a relatively empty parking lot to the front door of Riverwood. Signs posted on the front door outlined restrictions and guidelines for the visitation. Inside there may have been twenty people counting employees of the funeral home. In my wildest dreams I never envisioned Mr. Curtis Smith's services would be anything less than a traffic jam on Highway 51 South. But a pandemic kept people away ... people who had deep respect for this Loyd Star legend. I will never forget this man whose mantra was, "I never had it so good."

For sure these unprecedented moments represent "times that try men's souls." We are moving into uncharted waters. At this time, I caution each of you to exercise common sense. Familiarize yourself with the terms isolation and social distancing. An excellent source of information can be accessed at kdmc.org/COVID19.

Presently, there is not a definitive timetable for resuming classes. While we crave normalcy and routine, there are too many unknown variables at the moment. Currently, we are exploring viable options to address the instructional and nutritional needs of our students, particularly during a prolonged school closure. The most crucial aspect of this journey right now is not an academic standard or benchmark assessment, but the safety and well-being of all those connected to our district.

What we do is contingent upon directives from Governor Tate Reeves and the Mississippi Department of Education, plus orders from the Mississippi Department of Health, the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency, and the Center for Disease Control. This morning I met with the Lincoln County Emergency Management Committee, spearheaded by Civil Defense director, Clifford Galey. Tomorrow, I will meet with superintendents from adjacent districts, followed by a conference with principals and administrators from the central office level on Friday, interspersed with other teleconferences. A meeting of the State Board of Education to be livestreamed tomorrow morning at 10:00 will chart the immediate course for our public school system. Stay tuned for further updates, but in the meantime, protect yourself and those entrusted into your care.

Respectfully submitted,

Mickey Myers