



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fremont Board of Health Releasing Community Directed Health Measure

City of Fremont, Fremont Public Schools, Midland University, Archbishop Bergan Catholic Schools, Trinity Lutheran School, Metropolitan Community College, Three Rivers Public Health Department, Methodist Fremont Health & Dodge County

Fremont, Neb. – (Apr. 3, 2020) The Fremont Board of Health today released a Community Directed Health Measure effectively closing beauty salons, nail salons, barbershops, gyms, fitness centers, tattoo parlors, and massage therapist establishments starting on Sunday, April 5 continuing through May 6, 2020.

The City of Fremont, Three Rivers Public Health Department, Methodist Fremont Health, Fremont Public Schools, Midland University, Archbishop Bergan Catholic Schools, Trinity Lutheran School, Metropolitan Community College, Dodge County and Senator Lynne Walz met to discuss the local response to COVID-19 and Fremont’s sixth positive case, two of which are community spread cases.

Terra Uhing, Executive Director at Three Rivers Public Health Department said, “It is very important for the community to come together in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we all have to do our part to keep our communities healthy and safe.”

The following are recommendations from Three Rivers Public Health and the CDC:

- It is recommended to avoid group gatherings and events of 10 people or more.
- Stay home if you are sick.
- Please continue to practice good hygiene habits such as washing your hands and coughing into your elbow.
- Make sure you are disinfecting and cleaning facilities.
- Practice social distancing (this is a strategy to limit the spread of COVID-19. This is a conscious effort to reduce contact between people to slow down the spread of the virus).
- Take personal responsibility for implementing social distancing in order to not infect others.
- If you are a business owner or supervisor ensure that you have a process in place to screen employees so that sick individuals are not coming into the workplace. (This can be done by having employees take temperatures daily and monitor for COVID-19 symptoms)

Fremont Public Schools, Midland University, Archbishop Bergan Catholic Schools, Trinity Lutheran School, Metropolitan Community College, City of Fremont & Dodge County announced today that through guidance by Three Rivers Public Health and the Center for Disease Control, the following entities are closing or responding by reducing activities out of an abundance of caution. This is a preventative measure to mitigate, suppress and delay the spread of COVID-19.

Fremont Public Schools

Fremont Public Schools will be closed effective at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, April 3 through Wednesday, May 6 unless extended. As previously stated and directed by Governor Ricketts, schools must operate without students present until May 31. Learning will continue through the district's Continuous Learning Plan for the remainder of the school year.

- All Fremont Public School Buildings will be closed - only essential personnel reporting, all other staff will be working from home.
- All activities are canceled through May 31 per Governor Pete Ricketts's Directed Health Measure (April 1) including spring sports, prom, the musical and spring concerts.
 - Fremont Public Schools facilities will be closed for all outside use indefinitely
- Graduation will not be held on May 16, 2020.
- The Grab - n - Go feeding program will move to **two days a week** beginning Monday, April 6. On Mondays and Thursdays multi-day meals will be available at Bell Field Elementary, Linden Elementary and Washington Elementary between 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Thursdays Meadowbrook meals will be available on Mondays and Thursdays between 11:00 am and Noon. Thursday meals at all locations will include a weekend backpack. Children do not need to be present to receive meals.
- All FPS playground equipment will be closed for public use beginning Monday April 6.
- All FPS play fields are open for "use at your own risk" as long as social distancing is maintained.
- Please refer to <https://fremontigers.org/covid-19/> for more information
- New information will be released as it is available

Midland University

Midland University will continue to teach all classes on-line through the end of the semester at both the Fremont and Omaha locations. Details have been sent to all students, faculty, and staff via internal email correspondence.

- All spring extracurricular activities are canceled.
- Students must vacate university housing no later than April 15.
- Students who need to remain in university housing must apply for and be granted an exception.
- Please visit <https://www.midlandu.edu> for more information.

Archbishop Bergan Catholic Schools

Archbishop Bergan Catholic Schools, including the Bergan Elementary & Bergan Middle/High Schools will be closed effective immediately for the remainder of the 2019-2020 academic school year. Bergan Early Childhood Education Center WILL REMAIN OPEN for Day Care services for families until further notice.

- Please refer to https://www.berganknights.org/calendar_news/news.html for the latest information as it becomes available.
- New information will be posted via School Beacon, Sycamore School Information System & www.berganknights.org
- The following activities will be canceled or postponed:
 - All Bergan facilities will be closed for student, parent and non essential staff usage. Access to the buildings can be made by appointment by calling the Elementary 402-721-9766 or Middle/High School 402-721-9683.

- All NSAA extracurricular activities practices, contests and events are canceled through May 31st, 2020.
- Prom and Post Prom have been cancelled.
- Graduation will not be held on May 16, 2020. Graduation will be postponed until a date to be determined during the month of July.
- Alternative Learning Plan will continue to operate with K-4 students picking up packets in the Elementary entryway and 5-12 students receiving online learning opportunities from their teachers with the academic year ending May 21, 2020.
- Bergan Elementary playground equipment will be closed for public use beginning Monday, April 6.

Trinity Lutheran Schools

Trinity Lutheran Schools will be closed effective immediately for an indefinite period of time. Trinity's Early Childhood Center WILL REMAIN OPEN until further notice.

- New information will be posted via School Beacon, Sycamore School Information System & the school's website. The parent facebook page will also be a source for information.
- Online distance learning will continue until further notice
- The following activities will be canceled or postponed.
 - All Trinity Lutheran School facilities will be closed for student and non-essential staff usage.
 - All athletic practices and games/meets are on hold.
 - K-3 musical is postponed.
 - The annual school auction is postponed.
 - The Trinity playground equipment will be closed for public use beginning Monday, April 6.

Metropolitan Community College

- Metropolitan Community College has moved credit classes to e-learning and alternate delivery methods, which will last through the end of the spring quarter. Noncredit courses have been canceled through May. Effective Friday, April 3 at 5 p.m., student and public access to the Fremont Area Center will be suspended. For information regarding student resources, visit mccneb.edu/coronavirus-update.

City of Fremont

City offices are still open, but precautions are in place for the safety of city employees and the public. Sneeze Guards have been installed at counters for customer interactions. The Board of Health issued a Community Directed Health Measure that starts on April 5, 2020, for residents and businesses in the Fremont city limits. The Community Directed Health Measure directs:

- All beauty salons, nail salons, barbershops, gyms, fitness centers, tattoo parlors, and massage therapist establishments to close on Sunday, April 5.
- The Community Directed Health Measure can be viewed at the following link <http://www.fremontne.gov/DocumentCenter/View/5561/Fremont-Community-Health-Directive--Board-of-Health->

Additionally,

- All City playground equipment will be closed for public use beginning Monday, April 6.

- All City play fields are open for “use at your own risk” as long as social distancing is maintained.

Dodge County

The Dodge County Courthouse will remain open, with services available by appointment only. The primary election will take place as scheduled on May 12, 2020. Voters are encouraged to utilize the early voting mail-in ballot option. Please see the following link for more information.

<https://sos.nebraska.gov/elections/2020-elections>

“Methodist Fremont Health appreciates the leadership in our community’s forward-thinking, this ultimately will aid the medical community’s response and lessen the impact of COVID-19,” said Brett Richmond, President and CEO of Methodist Fremont Health.

Mark Shepard, Superintendent of Fremont Public Schools said, “In these unprecedented times I am always proud of the way our public and private partners work together - I’m not sure that happens in every community the way it does here.”

Mayor Scott Getzschman said, “The City of Fremont working in conjunction with the county, health system and educational institutions always places our community’s health and well-being as our paramount duty.”

The quarantine period for COVID-19 is 14 days. Please self-evaluate for symptoms which include a fever of 100.4 or above, cough, sore throat, body aches, loss of smell or taste and shortness of breath. If you develop symptoms, please contact Three Rivers Public Health Department at 402-727-5396. “If you have COVID-19 symptoms, or develop symptoms, contact your health care provider and tell them how you are feeling. Please tell them about any potential exposure to a confirmed case of COVID-19. We ask that you call ahead before you go to the doctor’s office or an emergency room,” said Three Rivers Public Health Department, Executive Director, Terra Uhing.

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