

Dear residents of Roberts and surrounding areas,

As of March 25th in Montana, we have 41 active cases of Covid-19 and thankfully none have led to death or hospitalization, also none are currently closed and have beaten the disease.

Our prayers and thoughts are with these many families.

Additionally nationally, we do have a few hot spots around the country, but the plan of social distancing and slowing the spread has been effective in many areas of the country. Rural Montana, for many reasons, is a great place to be right now!

A couple of thoughts I have read and hope to share are, act as though you have the disease, and this is how to model social distancing. As the CDC suggests for Covid-19, as seen by clicking [here](#):

1. Clean your hands-20 seconds or more per washing
2. Avoid close contact-stay 6 feet apart
3. Stay home if you are sick
4. Wear a facemask if you are sick
5. Clean and disinfect often

Additionally, the thought was shared with me that, if you were asked to share with a nurse, doctor or county health worker where you have been the last 14 days, would you be proud of this list? This really sits in the back of my mind as I think of essential travel.

A positive thought to share as many of us are homebound right now, it is a great time to do a deep “spring” cleaning of our homes. Additionally, as we stay home it is a great time to reconnect with family and live a slower-paced life. Honestly for myself personally I have enjoyed the extra time at home with my wife and time to chat with the family via the phone or web conferencing.

How is Covid-19 affecting operations at the Roberts School

- Currently, per the Governor's proclamation, we are closed physically, but are offering education service through distance learning. The Governor's new proclamation ends on April 10th, so if this were to not be extended we would return on Tuesday, April 14th as this is Easter weekend and Monday the 13th is a planned day off.
 - We are working with families to ensure that students have equitable access to the internet and educational materials. In grades 4-12 we are down to just a couple of families who do not have internet and we are doing homework drop-offs and pick-ups daily for these families.
 - In grades K-3 we are doing daily drop-offs of worksheet based work to try limit screen time at these more fundamental years.
 - As has been happening. Work for the next day is going out with our lunch deliveries between 11 & 1.
 - We are also picking up any completed work at this time.
 - For example, today is Wednesday.
 - We are delivering Wednesday's Lunch,
 - We are delivering Thursday's offline work and breakfast.
 - And we are picking up Tuesdays completed work.
 - Teachers are calling and web conferencing with students to try to support students in their learning in this time of need.
 - We are also working with families and students in need to attempt to create equitable opportunities to learn.

- We are currently serving over 40 students with lunch and breakfast for the following day in a delivery service model at the free, reduced or normal rate. If you are interested in being added to this list please email langager@roberts.k12.mt.us or call 445-2421 and ask for Miss Nancy
- We are limiting school access to essential personnel. Only staff and approved visitors will be allowed in the building. If you need in the building please contact Mr. Ator to set up and an appointment via email ator@roberts.k12.mt.us or at 445-2421.
- Additionally, if you have other needs please contact the school, as there are many county-wide task forces to support families and individuals in need and we may be able to send you in the right direction.

We thank you for your time and understanding. These are our children and this is a scary subject for many. We are doing everything in our power to maintain a healthy and safe climate for our staff and students. Thank you for your patience and remember as information evolves and changes, we will do our best to keep everyone up to date.

Thank you again for your time and understanding,

Alex Ator

Superintendent Roberts Schools

A few additional Notes:

MHSA has suspended all spring activities through Monday, April 13th.

State FFA and National BPA have been suspended indefinitely.

No plans for the spring awards banquet, spring music concert, or graduation have been finalized, but they have NOT been canceled either. We will work to ensure we find a solution to support these students.