

LOCAL HEALTH OFFICER ORDER
LHO 11/09/20

This Emergency Public Health Order is issued to mitigate the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) epidemic in Wyandotte County, Kansas, pursuant to the authority provided in K.S.A. 65-119, K.S.A. 65-129b, K.S.A. 65-202 and other applicable laws or regulations.

WHEREAS, the Local Health Officer is authorized and required, pursuant to K.S.A. 65-119 and K.S.A. 65-129b to immediately exercise and maintain supervision over known or suspected cases of any infectious or contagious disease during its continuance, and to issue orders seeing that all such cases are properly handled and that the provisions of the Kansas public health laws as to isolation, quarantine and disinfection are duly enforced; and

WHEREAS, the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19 and the resulting epidemic in Kansas and Wyandotte County continue to threaten the life and health of our citizens and visitors as well as the economy and remains a public disaster affecting life, health, property and the public peace; and

WHEREAS the Federal Government, the State of Kansas and the Unified Government of Kansas City/Wyandotte County, Kansas have all entered declarations that a disaster had occurred, acknowledging the threat within Wyandotte County, Kansas as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) and the confirmed outbreak and person-to-person spread of COVID-19 in the United States, State of Kansas and Wyandotte County; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19, a respiratory disease that spreads easily from person to person and may result in serious illness or death, has been confirmed in Kansas and that in Wyandotte County the number of confirmed cases, related deaths and positivity rates exceed that of other counties in the State as well as the metro area, and the steps necessary to prevent its spread vary based upon the locality thereby requiring a specific, measured and phased approach determined by data applicable to Wyandotte County, Kansas; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED by the Local Health Officer, pursuant to the above that:

1. LHO 7/27/20 is hereby rescinded which previously regulated the opening of schools to in-person education. This Order is intended to replace LHO 7/27/20 and encompass all current requirements of the healthy operation of schools.
2. All school children and educators must wear masks at all times while inside and outdoors
 - (a) The use of N95 masks for educators and school staff is highly encouraged.
 - (b) Students and staff may wear masks made of paper or cloth.
3. All school children and educators must maintain social distancing of at least 6 feet at all times
 - (a) Students must remain physical spaced while in hallways and outside the building before and after school.

- (b) Students must be physically spaced in classrooms to allow six feet of social distancing between each desk or workspace.
 - (c) The use of outdoor space is encouraged as much as possible for coursework learning and physical education.
 - (d) Social distancing of 6 feet or more must be maintained when outdoors.
4. Group singing and band/music are not allowed due to the especially high risk of virus spread from those activities.
5. Children must be cohorted to limit the number of staff and students they are in an enclosed space with.
- (a) Schools may use multiple methods to achieve this spacing of students in the physical spaces they have available to them. This does not necessarily mean that there are fewer students in attendance, rather it can be the same number of students, but spaced out to allow proper social distancing. This may be achieved creative ways including but not limited to:
 - (1) 1st – 7th graders back to school full-time, 8th – 12th grade distance learning full-time; or
 - (2) Children spaced within the school such that non-traditional spaces may be used as educational space such as gymnasiums, group rooms, band/singing rooms, etc.; or
 - (3) Cohort A and B rotate days physically present at the school – i.e. every other day schooling.
- 6. School districts in Wyandotte County will be required to submit their spacing and cohorting plan to comply to the health department for approval before implementation in the schools.**
7. This Order becomes effective at 12:01pm **November 16, 2020** and remains in effect until conditions in Wyandotte County are such to warrant a change or modification.
8. This Order may be supplemented or modified as required for the effective and efficient management and control of the Coronavirus epidemic in the County by further order or direction of the Wyandotte County Board of Public Health or by the Wyandotte County Local Health Officer, as applicable.
9. Pursuant to K.S.A. 65-129b, any health inspector, sheriff, deputy sheriff or other law enforcement officer of any political subdivision within Wyandotte County, Kansas is hereby ordered to assist in the execution or enforcement of this Order, as amended or modified, as well as all other orders of the Local Health Officer not otherwise rescinded or superseded.
10. Violation of this Order is a violation of Ordinance 17-7 and is a Class C Misdemeanor punishable by a maximum fine of \$500 and a 30-day jail sentence.
11. This Order shall be known and referred to as LHO 11/09/20.

IT IS SO ORDERED THIS 9th DAY OF NOVEMBER 2020



Dr. K. Allen Greiner M.D.
Local Health Officer
Wyandotte County, Kansas