



NEWS RELEASE

Tuesday, March 12, 2020

For Immediate Release

Contact: Patrick Gasper, Public Information Officer, 608-743-5091

SDJ cancels all after-school special events per State Health Department Recommendation

JANESVILLE—Governor Evers today declared a public health emergency in Wisconsin in response to the growing concern over the COVID-19 virus that is spreading across the world and nation. As part of the announcement, Wisconsin Department of Health Services Secretary Andrea Palm, recommends that entities cancel events of more than 250 people to help slow the spread of the virus. Therefore, the School District of Janesville (SDJ) is canceling ALL afterschool special events of any size beginning Friday, March 13, 2020, through the end of the SDJ spring break (Sunday, March 29, 2020). As an additional precaution, the 11th and 12th-grade Career Fair, which was set for Tuesday, March 31, 2020, at Parker High School is also canceled.

The SDJ continues to monitor the situation and follows guidance from local, state, and federal health officials. These measures are precautionary and serve to mitigate and slow the spread of the illness associated with COVID-19. As we move closer to the end March, the SDJ will make decisions about special events in April, again following guidance from health officials available at that time.

The cancelation of events includes (but is not limited to) the “Chaplin” musical at Parker High School, the “Into the Woods” musical at Edison Middle School, the Spotlighters Spectacular show choir competition, the middle school wrestling meet, and the Craig High School honors ceremony. For events where tickets have been sold in advance, the district will provide information regarding refunds at a later time.

We all play a role in reducing the likelihood of a disease outbreak in our community. We encourage everyone to practice good habits, including:

- Wash your hands regularly using soap and hot water, wash for about 20 seconds.
- Cough or sneeze into a tissue, and throw the tissue away, or cough/sneeze into your arm.
- As much as you can, avoid touching your eyes, mouth and nose.
- Avoid close contact in crowded areas and stay home when sick.

###

See <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/workplace-school-and-home-guidance.pdf> for more preventive measures.