



March 12, 2020

The school district is closely monitoring the situation and is making the necessary preparations in case the COVID-19 becomes more prevalent in our community. For now, there have been no indications of a Coronavirus outbreak, but that could change as time goes on.

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

- Wash your hands regularly, especially after using the restroom and before preparing or consuming food. Wash for 20 seconds, using soap and hot water. Be sure to also wash your fingertips.
- Avoid coughing or sneezing into your hands or in the air. Always try to cough or sneeze into a tissue, and then throw the tissue away. If you don't have a tissue, cough/sneeze into your arm.
- As much as you can, avoid touching your eyes, mouth and nose.
- If children are feeling sick, please keep them home from school. Allow them some time to feel better so that they do not risk infecting others.

At the school level, we have updated our protocol to include additional cleanings throughout the day of regularly used surfaces using products that have been identified as effective for this specific situation. Furthermore, a deep cleaning of all surfaces will be completed during the long weekend, 3/13-3/16.

We will continue to communicate with you in the days and weeks to come. It is possible that we may need to cancel classes if it appears the coronavirus has affected our community in a significant way. This decision would be made following direction from the Broome County Health Department.

As always, the safety of our students, staff and families remains our top priority. We will act out of an abundance of caution to protect everyone's health and wellbeing.

Please see resources and information about the Coronavirus below:

Broome County Health Department Website

<http://www.gobroomecounty.com/hd>

New York State Department of Health website

<https://www.health.ny.gov/>

- Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

<https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/coronavirus/>

- Travel: Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/faqs.html>

- COVID-19: What is Stigma and What Causes It?

<https://tinyurl.com/v9kpgj6>

- Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) - Frequently Asked Questions - Prevention

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html#prevention>

- Prevention, Treatment of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/prevention-treatment.html>

In addition, New York has established a Novel Coronavirus Hotline, which can provide additional information. Call **1-888-364-3065** with questions or concerns about travel and symptoms

Families are also encouraged to follow the CDC's information for travel, available at

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>.