



LAFAYETTE

PARISH SCHOOL SYSTEM

March 3, 2020

Irma Trosclair
Interim Superintendent
P.O. Drawer 2158
Lafayette, LA 70502
337.521.7000

Dear Parents, Students, and Community of the Lafayette Parish School System,

The staff of the Lafayette Parish School System are proactively monitoring the situation surrounding COVID-19 (coronavirus) and are taking the necessary precautions as recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to prevent the spread of germs within our schools. **Presently, there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Louisiana.** As we continue to work with local health authorities to keep our students safe, we would like to provide you with some important information as we work together to **plan** and **prepare** for the possibility of an outbreak in our community.

Viruses are commonly spread from infected persons to others by:

- Coughing and sneezing
- Shaking hands
- Touching an object or surface containing the virus, then touching your mouth, nose, or eyes before washing your hands
- On rare occasions through fecal contamination

Methods to prevent the spread of viruses:

- Wash your hands for a minimum of 20 seconds with soap and water
- Avoid touching your mouth, nose, and eyes with unwashed hands
- Do not eat or drink after others
- Stay home if you are sick
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then promptly throw the tissue in the trash
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces
- Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol, especially if soap and water are unavailable

While we will be providing this information to your students in their classrooms, we ask that you review these prevention methods with your children and please keep them home and report to your doctor should your child show signs of fever, cough, and shortness of breath or have difficulty breathing. Current and potential students, as well as staff, who have recently traveled outside of the U.S. to a country on [the CDC's risk-assessed list](#), are asked to wait 14 days, beginning with the day of return to the U.S., before returning to school and work.

Additionally, we are currently in the midst of flu and respiratory disease season. Please be reminded that students cannot return to school until they have been fever free, without the use of fever reducing medications, for at least 24 hours.

For more information, please visit the Louisiana Department of Public Health's website at www.ldh.la.gov and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov>. We will continue to keep you up to date as we receive new information from public health officials.

Respectfully,

Irma D. Trosclair

STRENGTH. TRADITION. EXCELLENCE.