

March 17, 2020

Important Information Regarding Coronavirus

Dear Families,

The health and safety of our students, families, and staff are paramount. Like you, we are adapting to this challenging time for our city and school community. Communication is key during these times.

Today, we have received a report that a staff member has tested positive for coronavirus disease (also known as COVID-19). The staff member is currently isolated at home. While our school is closed, our custodial team will continue the on-site deep cleaning and sanitizing of the entire school.

As announced Friday, Governor Carney has ordered all public schools in the state to close for at least the next two weeks. State officials expect the number of positive cases to continue to rise over the coming weeks, and many school communities will learn of instances of secondary exposure.

Symptoms of COVID-19 may include fever, cough, and/or shortness of breath. At this time DPH recommends staff and families practice social distancing if they are well (keeping your distance from others) and staying at home if you are sick. Staff and families are advised to look for symptoms and contact your, or your child's physician, if anyone displays symptoms. If you do not have a health care provider, contact DPH's Dana Carr at Dana.Carr@delaware.gov or 1-703-942-9912.

For general questions about COVID-19, please call the Delaware Division of Public Health hotline at **1-866.408.1899** or email them at DPHcall@delaware.gov.

While you and your children are at home, there are steps that all of us can take to safeguard our own health and the health of our community. The CDC recommends that everyone take the following preventive measures:

- Wash hands frequently and effectively (i.e., use soap and water; rub hands under the water for at least 20 seconds). If soap and water are not available, use alcohol-based hand sanitizers.
- Avoid touching your eyes, mouth, and nose.
- Keep a safe distance from anyone who may be sick.
- Clean and disinfect anything you touch frequently.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue; throw the tissue in the trash immediately.
- Adults and children should stay home when sick.

The Delaware Division of Public Health is monitoring the situation closely and participating in national calls with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). We will follow the direction from the Delaware Division of Public Health, the Delaware Department of Education, and other public health experts over the coming months to direct our planning and actions.

You can learn more about coronavirus disease from the [Delaware Division of Public Health](https://de.gov/coronavirus) de.gov/coronavirus.

Thank you for your continued partnership to protect the health of our school community.

Sincerely,



Aaron Bass
CEO

