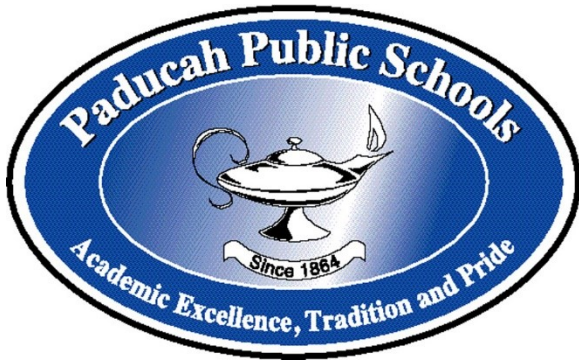




Paducah Public Schools
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March 9, 2020

Paducah Public Schools is working closely with our local and state government, health department, and other community agencies to monitor COVID-19/corona virus and ensure a coordinated and comprehensive public health response if warranted.

Our district is prepared to take all steps necessary to keep our students, staff and families safe, while recognizing the importance of letting facts, rather than fear, determine our actions.

We will continue to keep you informed about our response to COVID-19. You may notice an increased emphasis on hygiene and handwashing in our schools and our communications with family. Our district will also increase the frequency of cleaning high traffic areas and equipment. Please know these are preventative measures and not an indication that something is wrong. Should there be any cases of COVID-19 in our community or schools, we will communicate directly with families, students, staff and the general public.

At this time, health officials encourage everyone to stay informed and to follow the best practice guidelines for staying healthy:

- Wash hands frequently with soap and water, for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom, before eating, and after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing. If soap and water are not available, use alcohol-based hand sanitizers.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe

If you are looking for ways to help, please talk with your children at home about the importance of handwashing and practice proper handwashing techniques. Donations of tissues and hand sanitizer are always welcome in our schools.

For more detailed information about COVID-19:

Centers for Disease Control & Prevention <https://www.cdc.gov/>

Kentucky Department for Public Health: <https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/Pages/covid19.aspx>

We are extremely fortunate to have nurses in our schools and access to nurse practitioners from Baptist Health. Thank you to our families for entrusting your students with us and to our valuable employees for providing a safe, healthy environment for teaching and learning. We pledge to keep you up-to-date on this rapidly changing situation and how it might impact our students and staff.

Sincerely,

Donald I. Shively, Superintendent
Paducah Public Schools