

March 3, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

This message is an update to our February 4, 2020 correspondence regarding the coronavirus outbreak. With the virus having spread outside its origins in China, federal health officials are preparing for a likely outbreak in the United States. To date, there have been no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Ohio. The Mayfield City School District is monitoring the situation closely and is taking direction from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Ohio Department of Health and the Cuyahoga County Board of Health.

We are asking parents/guardians to help in the effort to minimize the spread of this and other viruses by following the recommendations from the CDC, which are the same recommendations that everyone should practice during flu season:

- Wash hands frequently for a duration of at least 20 seconds
- Cover your nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing with a tissue or by using your sleeve or elbow
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth
- Stay home when sick and don't return to school for at least 24 hours of being fever-free without the use of medication

In addition, Mayfield City Schools is following all recommendations from the CDC to daily clean classrooms, bathrooms, cafeterias, equipment and other surfaces frequently touched by students and staff with antiviral solutions. We have added extra hand sanitation dispensers in our cafeterias and open spaces throughout our buildings, not as a substitute for hand washing, but as a second level of defense.

We also encourage parents/guardians to report to their building's attendance office if their child has a confirmed case of a respiratory illness such as the flu, RSV, whooping cough, etc. to help us track viral infections and to target our sanitizing efforts. We are monitoring student and staff attendance daily/weekly and have not seen a rise in absenteeism.

If we were to experience a COVID-19 case, we will take our direction from the CDC, Ohio Department of Health and Cuyahoga Board of Health, regarding potential school closings. Should this occur in the Mayfield City Schools, we are prepared to close schools and provide remote online learning through Schoology, Lexia, and other district-established learning management systems already in place. The length of any school closure will dictate the specific approach we take.

Currently, the CDC is NOT recommending the use of facemasks by people who are well. Facemask use is only being recommended for a person who is sick or who suspects that he or she is infected with the coronavirus.

You can find the most up-to-date information on COVID-19 at the following sites:

CDC: [2019 Novel Coronavirus \(2019-nCoV\) Situation Summary](#)

Ohio Dept. of Health: [COVID-19](#)

Cuyahoga County Board of Health: [CCBH](#)

Talking to Kids about the Coronavirus:

<https://childmind.org/article/talking-to-kids-about-the-coronavirus/>

<https://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2020/02/28/809580453/just-for-kids-a-comic-exploring-the-new-coronavirus>

As always, the health and safety of our students, staff and community is our top priority and concern. Thank you for your continued support of our health and safety practices and protocols.

Sincerely,
Dr. Keith Kelly

Superintendent, Mayfield City Schools