

Hello JC Schools Families,

The 2019-2020 flu season has been complicated by recent reports of a new coronavirus (COVID-19). Currently, there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Missouri. However, we want to assure you that the Jefferson City School District is closely monitoring the information available from national, state, and local health experts, and we are taking necessary precautions to keep our staff and students safe. These precautions include:

- Increased disinfecting of high-touch, hard surfaces within our buildings and on school buses;
- Regular communication with local health agencies on community plans;
- Review of district procedures pertaining to students presenting with symptoms of illness;
- Working with school nurses and staff to provide increased awareness of preventative measures relating to viral infections;
- Continuous monitoring of related resources provided by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), MO Department of Health & Senior Services (DHSS) and MO Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), and Cole County Health Department.

We urge families to exercise healthy behavior best practices to reduce the risk of getting viral infections, such as:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds;
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands;
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick;
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, then throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands;
- Clean and disinfect objects and surfaces, especially if someone is sick;
- If your child gets sick with flu-like illness, the CDC recommends staying home for at least 24 hours after the fever is gone without the use of a fever-reducing medicine.

It is important to note that the conditions surrounding COVID-19 are rapidly-changing and new information about the disease may impact the community approach. As always, we will keep you informed of any additional information.

Thank you for your help in keeping our students healthy during this cold and flu season!

*Jefferson City School District*

List of resources for reference:

- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention COVID-19 website](#)
- [CDC: What you need to know about coronavirus disease 2019](#)
- [Missouri DHSS COVID-19 Resources](#)
- [Sick With Flu? Know What to Do!](#)
- [Hand Washing: A Powerful Antidote to Illness](#)