

Hello JC Schools Families,

As we've shared with you previously, this year's flu season has been complicated by a novel (new) coronavirus (COVID-19). The district is closely monitoring this situation, and we are taking the necessary precautions in order to protect the health and safety of our students and staff.

We are in contact with health officials in our community on a daily basis, and they have indicated it is safe for schools in our district to remain open. 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. We will share updates when new information or guidelines need to be communicated.

As a precaution, and due to the continued increase in COVID-19 cases in other states, the district will be putting in place the following travel restrictions:

- All out-of-state travel will be cancelled through April 1, 2020. This applies to all school-sponsored travel for both students and staff including field trips, activities, sporting events & tournaments, professional development, and conferences.
- All in-state travel will be assessed on a case by case basis until further notice.

The Jefferson City Public Schools Foundation Princess & Papa Dance scheduled for this Sunday at Lewis & Clark Middle School will be cancelled until further notice as a precautionary measure. Refunds will be made through the original form of payment. If you have any questions about this event please call the Foundation at 573-659-3549.

We want to again assure you that the Jefferson City School District is taking the following precautions to keep our students and staff safe:

- Increased disinfecting of high-touch, hard surfaces within our buildings and on school buses;
- Regular communication with local health agencies on community plans;
- Reviewing 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 the 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.

- Call your doctor immediately if you or your child develops symptoms after coming in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19 or if you have recently traveled from an [area with widespread or ongoing community spread of COVID-19](#).
- Any students or staff members returning from non-school-sponsored travel to areas with community spread of COVID-19 must follow the guidance they receive from health officials. COVID-19 information for travel is updated regularly on the [CDC website](#).

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:

- Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services 24/7 Coronavirus Hotline: 877-435-8411
- [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](#)
- [COVID-19 Symptoms](#)
- [COVID-19 Travel Information](#)