

March 2, 2020

Dear District 95 Parents and Guardians,

<u>Out of an abundance of caution</u> and because the health and safety of our students and staff are our top priority, I am contacting you to share the following information about the Coronavirus COVID-19.

Today it was reported to District 95 that a confirmed case of the virus was verified at Northwest Community Hospital in Arlington Heights. We have been informed that some Northwest Community Hospital employees were asked to self-quarantine and socially distance themselves since they were in contact with the patient who tested positive with Coronavirus.

We were also informed that two individuals with ties to May Whitney and Middle School North each reside in a household with a Northwest Community Hospital employee who is self-quarantined. Upon receiving this information, we immediately began working with the Illinois Department of Public Health, the Lake County Health Department, the Cook County Health Department, and the District's consulting physician from Northwest Community Hospital. <u>All three agencies and the consulting physician have</u> <u>advised us that these two individuals are not considered Coronavirus cases, and they have no</u> <u>restrictions in terms of work, school, or other activities</u>. We will continue to monitor the situation as recommended by health professionals.

## What We Are Doing

To help avoid the spread of illness, District 95 has increased cleanliness measures in our buildings and buses to include:

- Increased daily wipe downs of classroom surface areas
- Increased daily bus interior wipe downs
- Use of electrostatic cleaning tools in schools
- Hand sanitizer available to students and staff at all schools

## What You Can Do

The Lake County Health Department, Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), and the Center for Disease Control (CDC) advise the following measures to help prevent the spread of Coronavirus:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If no soap and water are available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- In order to limit prevention of all communicable diseases, we need your cooperation. It is <u>imperative</u> that students and staff showing any symptoms of illness stay home.

We are sharing this information with you in order to be transparent about what we know and how experts have guided us. As parents, you always have the ultimate decision about what is best for your children, including when to keep them home. We will continue to provide you with any pertinent information about the Coronavirus COVID-19 as it impacts our area.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kelley Gallt

Superintendent