



Dear Barbers Hill ISD Families,

We are continuing to closely monitor information concerning the coronavirus (COVID-19) and are following the guidance and expertise of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Chambers County Health Department and Texas Department of State Health Services.

As of March 5, 2020, the CDC has identified four countries for which it has issued a Level 3 Travel Health Notice. The four countries with the advisory are China, Iran, South Korea, and Italy. A person who travels to or through those countries while a Level 3 advisory is in effect is to stay home and monitor his or her health for 14 days after the person leaves that country. We encourage everyone in our community to go to the CDC's website for factual, up-to-date information regarding COVID-19. The following is guidance from the CDC to consider before traveling:

- See CDC traveler's health notices at <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel> for up-to-date guidance and recommendations relating to travel to specific countries.
- See information for travelers visiting countries where there are confirmed cases of COVID-19 at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>

How BHISD is being proactive

- BHISD nurses are on staff at every campus, and they are receiving guidance from their Health Services Supervisor who works closely with nurses to provide the latest information from health agencies and to monitor illnesses, such as the flu.
- Custodial Operations staff clean for health by following a routine, thorough cleaning process that consists of disinfecting restrooms and common areas in spaces such as lounges, offices, and classrooms using hospital-grade products to offset the spread of communicable illnesses. We also use specialized equipment and foggers on campuses that kill the coronavirus, along with other harmful bacteria and viruses.
- Students at all levels are encouraged to follow the hand-washing protocols demonstrated in the video shown on all campuses this week.

What you can do

Public health officials recommend that everyone help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19 by ensuring the following:

- Everyone 6 months and older is encouraged to **get a flu shot**.
- **Wash your hands often** with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use a 60% alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- **Avoid** touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- **Avoid** close contact with anyone sick.
- **Stay home when you are sick**. Keeping a sick child at home prevents the spread of illness in the school community and allows the child an opportunity to rest and recover.
- **Cover your mouth and nose** when you cough or sneeze.
- **Clean and disinfect** frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Where to look for information

As a reminder, it is best to rely on factual information from reliable sources. Therefore, here are links to information about COVID-19 from local, state, national and international health organizations:

- [Texas Department of State Health Services](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [World Health Organization](#)
- <https://www.co.chambers.tx.us/page/health.department>
- <https://www.bhisd.net/>

We will continue to monitor and respond accordingly as guided by local and national health officials. As always, our focus is to ensure the safety of all students and staff, and continue education with minimal disruption. Thank you for your support of our district, our schools, our students and our teachers and staff.

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