

## **PARKLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Educating For Success, Inspiring Excellence.



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2016 2017

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February 27, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are writing to address the <u>Coronavirus</u> which has received widespread media attention in recent days. Parkland School District (PSD) does not have a confirmed case of Coronavirus. If this was to occur, we would notify staff and parents/guardians within the school. However, recent statements from the United States Center for Disease Control (CDC) and World Health Organization (WHO) have asked schools to prepare for the spread of the virus.

First and foremost, we are reminding all staff and students to follow CDC recommendations to prevent any respiratory virus which are to:

- · Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- · Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when sick.
- · Cough or sneeze into an elbow or use a tissue and place immediately in the trash.
- · Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

In addition to our usual vigilant efforts to maintain clean and healthy schools, our school nurses carefully monitor our students for symptoms. Additionally, Parkland is taking extra precautionary measures as follows:

- · Disinfecting desks, doorknobs, school bus seats, phones and all public areas each evening
- · Increasing the availability of hand sanitizer (all high use areas already have wall-mounted stations)
- Posting flyers throughout public areas and restrooms about how to (Stop the Spread of Germs)
- · Rotating whole room disinfection machines through school nurse suites and athletic areas

Concerns about health situations such as this can cause anxiety for children and family members. As parents and educators, we want to protect our children and ensure their safety. It may be helpful to note that currently, the threat of someone in the United States becoming sick with the Coronavirus is very low. Those at risk are those who have traveled to China, and those caring for those who already have the virus (Coronavirus Fact Sheet). If you find that you or a family member gets sick, please note that the CDC has put out this sheet on (What to Do if You Are Sick With Coronavirus).

We will continue to update you with our rapid notification system and regular social media posts when pertinent information becomes available. Resources will also be posted on the <u>Parkland Health Services webpage</u> of the District website.

Thank you for working together with us to see that accurate information is shared and preventative steps are taken. Together we will navigate this concern. The health and safety of our students and staff is of the utmost importance to all of us in Parkland.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Sheri Fredrick-Deeb, Parkland School District Supervisor of Health and Wellness at <u>deebs@parklandsd.org</u>.

Sincerely,

Richard T. Sniscak Superintendent

Brenda DeRenzo Director of Student Services

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Sheri Fredrick-Deeb Supervisor of Health & Wellness