

COVID-19 Update

**Haldane School District** <connect@haldaneschool.org>

March 11, 2020

Dear Haldane Community Members,

The situation related to COVID-19 continues to evolve. The following information is being shared for your reference in the event that there is an impact on our community:

- We have been advised that the Putnam County Department of Health will notify us if there are any concerns related to the potential exposure of a member of our school community to the virus. As of today, there remains no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Putnam County.
- Our school district has three emergency days that were unutilized through the winter season. In the event that we have to close school based on guidance received from the Department of Health, we would first utilize these emergency days before transitioning into a remote learning environment.
- In the event of an extended school closure, or after the accumulation of several short-term/one day closures, our teachers are prepared to facilitate continued instruction to the greatest extent possible via the Google Classroom platform or other means. The specific manner in how this will be facilitated is dependent upon the individual classroom teacher, and every effort is being made to ensure that every student has access to a computer and the internet. If you have concerns with your child's ability to access a computer or the internet at home, please contact your child's building principal.
- All field trips are being reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
- We continue to focus on the regular cleaning of our building in accordance with the recommendations that have been made by the Department of Health and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. We have also implemented a protocol for the daily disinfection of our busses.
- We anticipate additional guidance regarding "large/mass gatherings" from either the Governor's Office or the New York State Education Department in the coming days. This guidance may have an impact on school activities (e.g. extracurriculars, co-curriculars, etc.).

Our faculty and staff continue to maintain a sense of routine for our students each day, and our custodial and maintenance staff have been exemplary in their commitment towards maintaining a rigorous cleaning schedule.

I appreciate your continued support and patience as we work through this matter. Please continue to help us by keeping your child home if he/she is sick, and reinforcing regular hygiene routines. Please feel free to contact me or one of our building principals with any questions or concerns, and I will plan to provide you with another update next week unless there is a need to do so sooner.

Sincerely,

Phil Benante, Ed. D.  
Superintendent of Schools

