



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: March 4, 2020

Contact Kimberli Peerenboom, Director of Pupil Services, (608) 743-5061
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Best Practices and Safety Measures – Coronavirus (COVID-19)

JANESVILLE—In the School District of Janesville (SDJ) the health, safety, and well-being of our students and staff are our top priorities. With the recently elevated discussion regarding the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in the news, we want to take a moment to reinforce preventive safety measures and reference our process and communications.

First, it is important to remember that at this time, there have only been a small number of confirmed cases of coronavirus in the United States. As a school district, we are closely monitoring the situation and taking guidance from the Rock County Department of Health and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). There is currently no recommendation to close schools in the United States.

The SDJ is closely monitoring the situation and is making the necessary preparations in case the COVID-19 becomes more prevalent in our community. For now, there are no indications of a coronavirus outbreak, but that could change as time goes on.

Within our schools, the SDJ is continuing with its standard cleaning/sanitizing practices in all rooms. This includes, but is not limited to, daily cleaning and sanitizing of all classrooms, cafeterias, and bathrooms.

We all play a role in reducing the likelihood of a coronavirus outbreak in our school district community. To remind our students and staff of best practices, the CDC has provided a poster we will be placing in all buildings on how to “Stop the Spread of Germs”. We also encourage everyone to practice good habits, including:

- Wash your hands regularly, especially after using the restroom and before preparing or consuming food. Using soap and hot water, wash for about 20 seconds. Be sure to also wash your fingertips.
- Avoid coughing or sneezing into your hands or in the air. Always try to cough or sneeze into a tissue, and then throw the tissue away. If you don't have a tissue, cough/sneeze into your arm.

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- As much as you can, avoid touching your eyes, mouth and nose.
- If children are feeling sick, please keep them home from school. Allow them some time to feel better so that they do not risk infecting others. Students need to be fever-free for 24 hours before returning to class after any illness. Keeping children home when they are sick is critical to prevention.

We will continue to communicate with you in the days and weeks to come. It is possible that we may need to cancel classes if it appears the coronavirus has affected our community in a significant way. As always, the safety of our students, staff, and families remains our top priority.

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