



March 8, 2020

Dear BPSD Families and Staff,

I want to update you about the coronavirus efforts the District is taking to ensure the safety of our students and the community. County officials continue to inform us that the risk to the general public remains low. The District is in close contact with the Orange County Health Care Agency, Orange County Department of Education, California Department of Education and the California Department of Public Health to monitor the issue and our organization will act according to their direction.

*Orange County Health Care Agency acknowledges the situation is rapidly evolving, and our district is closely monitoring developments. Above all, we are committed to protecting BPSD students and staff in learning environments that are safe and inclusive. Last week, members of the BPSD administrative team from our EOC (Emergency Operations Center) participated in a conference call with the OC Health Care Agency. We will continue to participate in weekly communications from the OC Health Care Agency for the latest update.*

At this point, there are many ways to help prevent the spread of any illness, like the corona virus, flu, or even common cold. Here are a few ways to lessen the chances of spreading illness.

- If your student has a fever, cough, trouble breathing, and/or intestinal distress, please stay home for at least 24 hours after being fever-free without the use of fever-reducing medications.
- Wash your hands often for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, then use alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has an informative video located at [www.bpsd.us/corona/](http://www.bpsd.us/corona/) or <https://youtu.be/eZw4Ga3jg3E>.
- Cough or sneeze into your sleeve or into a tissue which is then thrown away.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

*We take cleanliness seriously at our schools, classrooms, busses, common areas are clean and sanitized daily, and BPSD is also taking extra steps in disinfecting classes twice monthly for the past month and Health Clerks have met regarding ways to increase good health practices in both hand washing and coughing.*

Please be aware of the misinformation and stigmatization surrounding the novel coronavirus. I encourage you to visit Orange County Health Care Agency at <http://bit.ly/39O7azW> or [www.bpsd.us/corona/](http://www.bpsd.us/corona/) to obtain accurate information about this issue. You can also stay up to date with this issue at our district website. In addition, *Orange County Department of Education Superintendent, Dr. Al Mijares has shared a letter about the County's efforts as well as the dangers of misinformation about the coronavirus outbreak. Please take a moment to read his letter to all K-12 public schools in Orange County at the following site: ([www.bpsd.us/corona/](http://www.bpsd.us/corona/)).*

As mentioned, the district continues to work with our County and State partners to monitor the situation so that all of our schools remain safe and healthy places to learn.

Sincerely,

Dr. Ramon Miramontes  
Superintendent

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