



*"Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow"*

March 2020

Parents and Staff:

As most of you are aware due to media reporting, there is an expanding global outbreak of a respiratory illness (named COVID-19) caused by a new coronavirus. With this heightened awareness, you may have questions regarding the steps we take to disinfect our school facilities in order to hopefully contain the spread of any type of virus or other illness.

First and foremost, please know that we are currently engaged with our local and state health partners to make sure we have open lines of communication with these agencies. Since the preventative measures for COVID-19 and influenza are the same, we have been and will continue to practice preventive measures on a regular basis. This includes disinfecting those typical areas that students come into contact with. We also continue to remind students to cover their coughs and sneezes with a tissue or their upper arm/elbow and to also wash their hands frequently and thoroughly with soap and water.

As a parent, we do want you to also reinforce these same preventative measures with your children. Below is a list of preventative measures from the Iowa Department of Public Health:

- Teach your children to always cover their cough and sneezes with a tissue or elbow.
- Remind your children to wash their hands with soap and water (or use hand sanitizer) after they touch their face, use the restroom and before they eat.
- Tell children to avoid touching their mouth and nose since that is how germs get into the body.
- Clean frequently touched surfaces and objects.

We also encourage you to have them disinfect their cell phones daily. It is also imperative that you keep your child at home when they are ill. The conservative rule of thumb is that your child should not return to school until they are fever free for at least 24 hours without fever reducing medication.

If a case is confirmed, our local and state public health authorities will be communicating with us, and we will be relaying this information to you. You may want to think about an emergency/backup plan for childcare should a caregiver become ill, or if school would need to be closed for a short period of time due to illness.

I want to reiterate that we will continue to take all preventive measures to clean and disinfect our facilities on a regular basis. I will also continue to communicate with you with any new information that comes to us from our public health agencies. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out or contact the Linn County Public Health at 319-892-6000 or the Iowa Department of Public Health at 800-362-2736.

  
Dr. Tim Cronin  
Central City Community Schools Superintendent

**Central City Community School District**