



Pablo Muñoz
Superintendent of Schools

February 28, 2020

Dear Students, Parents, and Staff:

The health and safety of our students and staff are a priority for the Passaic Public Schools. There has been significant discussion regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19), and I am writing to advise you of the steps the district is taking to ensure the safety of our students and staff, and to provide links to official health information and websites.

First, and most importantly, Passaic Public Schools continues to be in communication with local health officials. The New Jersey Department of Health has provided information to school districts, and we are adhering to guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), as well as State and local health departments. Information about the coronavirus can be found in the attached document.

Across the Passaic school district our staff is increasing the frequency of cleaning and sanitizing our buildings, classrooms, and offices. Our school nurses will continue to monitor staff and student absences as they do during the cold and flu season, as well as provide educational outreach to students and staff about practicing proper respiratory hygiene.

It is important that our communities take preventative measures to safeguard themselves. Safeguards include:

- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue or into your sleeve, not your hands;
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth;
- Wash hands often, with soap and water, for at least 20 seconds, especially after coughing or sneezing;
- Staff and students should stay home when they are sick;
- Staff and students should not return to school unless they have been fever-free without medication for 24 hours;
- Avoid people who are sick;
- See your healthcare provider to get a flu shot – it's not too late to be protected;
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects in your cars, homes, and workplaces.

For further information, the following links may be helpful, and all are available in English and Spanish:

- The Centers for Disease Control (CDC): <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- The World Health Organization: <https://www.who.int/news-room/q-a-detail/q-a-coronaviruses>
- New Jersey Department of Health: <https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml>

If you or someone you know doesn't feel well, please contact your doctor or the school nurse. Please watch our district website (www.passaicschools.org), Facebook (@PassaicPublicSchools), and Twitter (@passaicschools) for updates. Thank you for your cooperation in keeping our students and staff safe and healthy.

Sincerely,


Pablo Muñoz