



Dear Community Members,

There is much anxiety across our state and among our community and school families about the potential outbreak of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). Gov. Andy Beshear has communicated that state health officials are monitoring the situation concerning the virus and the work to prevent its spread. While there are confirmed cases in the state, the Governor and health officials believe the risk to Kentuckians remains low.

School leaders across the state were instructed that while the Coronavirus is new, the same procedures we use during flu season can be used during this time and are being recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC):

- Wash your hands, using soap and water for at least 20 seconds. It is especially important to emphasize to students that they should use soap and should wash hands regularly for at least 20 seconds each time.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, or cough or sneeze into your elbow.
- Stay home if you do not feel well. Do not come to school or work when you are feeling sick.
- Avoid close contact with sick individuals.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.

We will continue to rely on daily guidance from the Department for Public Health, local health officials and Kentucky Department of Education and will immediately pass along any pertinent information we receive.

For more information on COVID-19, see:

- COVID-19 Hotline: 1-800-722-5725
- The Cabinet for Health and Family Services' Coronavirus webpage, which includes information from the Center for Disease Control: kycovid19.ky.gov
- The Kentucky Department of Education [webpage](#) on COVID-19 that includes information about the virus.

This information will be updated as more guidance becomes available.

Rockcastle County Schools will take every opportunity to clean and disinfect our buildings and equipment. We will work closely with families and local health officials to keep our children and staff safe. State guidance suggests that anyone who feels sick should stay home from work or school. We have been in constant communication with state officials regarding our approach to COVID-19. Please feel free to contact my office at the Board of Education with any questions.

Sincerely,

David Pensol, Superintendent