



WEST SENECA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Matthew J. Bystrak
Superintendent of Schools

March 4, 2020

Dear Members of the West Seneca School Community,

Please allow this letter on the coronavirus to serve as an update to the letter the District sent earlier this week regarding coronavirus. The District is committed to protecting the health and safety of our students and staff.

The school district is working closely with the Department of Health (DOH). The DOH has provided guidance and advice for students or staff who have returned from traveling to one of the countries that have experienced confirmed cases of coronavirus. As of this point, the identified countries are Italy, Iran, China, and South Korea. The District is adhering to this guidance that indicates that these individuals take part in a voluntary 14-day home quarantine. The DOH provides a packet of materials regarding the monitoring of symptoms. If no symptoms arise, the student or staff member is cleared to return to school at the end of the quarantine period. Siblings or family members who did not travel but share a living space are clear to attend school unless they exhibit any symptoms. The DOH guidance evolves regularly as does the list of impacted nations. It is important for families to inform the district if they have traveled to impacted countries.

The DOH and Center for Disease Controls (CDC) urge that common sense measures such as regular and thorough hand washing, use of hand sanitizers, respiratory etiquette, covering coughs and sneezes, and avoiding touching eyes, nose, and mouth after coughing are highly effective personal protective measures against any form of virus. Our teachers will reinforce these practices and we have cleaning protocols in place that will help to mitigate the spread of germs.

The West Seneca Central School District has infectious disease controls in place, and we will continue planning and preparing for any contingency as the coronavirus situation evolves. Please know that under the law we cannot discuss confidential health information regarding any student or staff member. It is important to note that as of this point, the DOH has indicated that there are no confirmed cases of corona virus in Erie County.

We will continue to update our school community as circumstances dictate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew J. Bystrak".

Matthew J. Bystrak
Superintendent