



FLOYD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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March 11, 2020

Dear FCPS families and staff,

Floyd County Public Schools is closely monitoring the global health crisis associated with the novel coronavirus infections (COVID-19), as well as any impact it may have locally. Please be assured that the health and safety of students and staff is always our top priority. We are working directly with the local and state health departments and the Virginia Department of Education and will follow their directives to ensure we keep all children and staff as safe as possible.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), risk to the U.S. public is considered low at this time. If you are not familiar with the respiratory disease caused by the COVID-19 outbreak, you can find more information on the CDC website at www.cdc.gov as well as the Virginia Department of Health website at www.vdh.virginia.gov.

It is natural for people to be concerned and to ask what they can do to protect themselves and their families. During the winter season, many other viruses that cause respiratory illness, such as flu, are common. According to the CDC and VDH, the following steps can be taken to prevent the spread of flu and the common cold, which will also help prevent COVID-19:

- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If not available, use hand sanitizer,
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands,
- Avoid contact with people who are sick,
- Stay home from work or school when you are sick and do not return until fever-free for 24 hours without medication,
- Cover your mouth/nose with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing.

The monitoring of communicable diseases happens through the Virginia Department of Health and our local health department. We have a close and positive working relationship with the health department to help us address any concerns that might arise in a school building. As I mentioned previously in this letter, we will continue to work with the health department and follow guidance from the CDC about the flu and other respiratory illnesses in Floyd County.

Sincerely,

Dr. John Wheeler, Superintendent
Floyd County Public Schools