

**NORTH WEST HENDRICKS
SCHOOL CORPORATION**

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M.Scott Syverson
Interim Superintendent

Friday, February 28, 2020

Dear Parents,

This week, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention discussed possible options for what could happen if there is local person-to-person transmission of COVID-19 (coronavirus) in the United States, including recommendations for school systems to consider.

At this time, it is important to listen to facts and not respond to fear. Currently there are no confirmed cases of COVID in Indiana. The CDC says the risk to Hoosiers remains low. However, transmission of the virus in other countries has raised our level of concern, and we are preparing for the possibility of person-to-person transmission in our area.

The measures that are put in place should local person-to-person transmissions begin will depend on the number of individuals affected in our schools and the severity of illness we experience in our community.

The Indiana State Department of Health is preparing for all possible scenarios. Our administration will continue to monitor the situation and communicate about any possible impact to our schools and the community.

There are no plans to close schools at this time. This is an extreme measure that can be disruptive to day-to-day life. Any decision to close school will be at the direction of public health experts, including the State Department of Health.

Rest assured, NWHSC will continue to follow CDC recommendations to prevent any viral respiratory infection, which includes the following for students and staff:

- Frequent cleaning and disinfecting of objects and surfaces regularly touched.
- Washing hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Not touching eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoiding close contact with people who are sick.
- Staying home when sick.
- Coughing or sneezing into an elbow or using a tissue and immediately placing in the trash.

We encourage you to practice these steps at home, as well.

If a student or staff member shows respiratory symptoms, our school nurses will follow standard precautions and work with the Hendricks Co. Health Dept. and the Indiana State Board of Health to further research individual/family travel histories.

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We encourage everyone to continue to practice general flu prevention measures identified above and in addition:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Get your flu shot – it's never too late!
- Stay home if you're feeling sick
- Call your doctor and let them know your symptoms and travel history

Please visit [cdc.org/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.org/coronavirus) for important updates about coronavirus and the risks associated with the disease.