

MEMO

To: All Tukwila School District Staff and Families

From: Dr. Flip Herndon, Superintendent

Date: March 5, 2020

RE: COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

The King County Health Department has notified us of increased cases of the coronavirus in the county. I want to assure you that at this time, we have no known cases of COVID-19 in Tukwila. There are no students or staff being monitored at this time. School will continue on its normal schedule as recommended by the King County Health Department.

The Public Health Department, along with the CDC, have provided strict guidelines as to when a school or schools should be closed. At this time, Tukwila School District does NOT meet the criteria. Public Health is not currently recommending that schools proactively close unless they have a confirmed case of COVID-19 in a staff member or student.

I continue to remain in contact and in communication with King County Department of Health, Washington State Department of Health and the City of Tukwila to address any changes as they develop. Key information will be shared with the community as it becomes available.

I have received recommendations from the King County Health Department that will help reduce the spread of the virus:

- Wash your hands often and well using soap and hot water for a duration of at least 20 seconds
- Stay home if you or your child are sick
- Avoid large group gatherings (10 or more) especially
 - If you are age 60 or older
 - have chronic health conditions such as heart conditions, lung conditions or diabetes
 - you are pregnant
 - weakened immune system
- Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer when hand washing is not available
- Cover coughs and sneezes with your sleeve or tissue

I am working closely with our district health team and I want to assure you that our custodial staff are cleaning our building and classrooms effectively daily. We are prepared for any deep cleaning or increased need.

If you have questions, and would like additional information, you can go to our website, www.tukwilaschools.org, which has links to King County Public Health and Washington State Department of Health.

I will continue to keep you informed of any developments. As always, should you have any questions please do not hesitate to reach out.