



Weldon City Schools

Charging Into Excellence

Dr. Jerry V. Congleton
Interim Superintendent

Board of Education
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March 3, 2020

Dear WCS Families:

Weldon City Schools are taking steps to address the concerns regarding the spread of influenza and COVID 19 (Coronavirus). We are in continuous contact with the Halifax County Health Department, and the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services. Additionally, we are constantly monitoring information, directives, and releases from the Center of Disease Control (CDC). We are committed to continuously educating our staff, students, and community members about precautionary measures that can be taken to reduce the possibility of infection or of spreading the coronavirus and/or the influenza virus.

As a best practice for overall health during the influenza season, the CDC recommends that individuals receive the flu shot (it's not too late) and engage in everyday preventative measures, to prevent the spread of germs, including:

- **Avoid close contact** with sick people. While sick, limit contact with others as much as possible to keep from infecting them.
- **Stay home** if sick with flu-like illness. CDC recommends staying home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone, except to get medical care or for other necessities. (Your fever should be gone for 24 hours without the use of a fever-reducing medicine.)
- **Cover your nose and mouth** with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. After using a tissue, throw it in the trash and wash your hands.
- **Wash your hands often with soap and water.** If soap and water are not available, use a 60% alcohol-based hand rub and avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth. Germs spread this way.
- **Clean and disinfect surfaces and objects** that may be contaminated with germs like flu.

While the World Health Organization (WHO) has declared this particular coronavirus a public health emergency, it is important to stay focused on the facts surrounding the virus. Thus far there are **NO cases in North Carolina**. The flu infects and results in many more deaths every year than we are currently discussing with the coronavirus. None the less, it is important to stay informed and focused on the probable progression of this virus. We will be diligent in our efforts to stay informed and stay ahead of this potentially dangerous situation.

As always, the safety of our staff, students, and families is our top priority. In the event of a local case of coronavirus (COVID-19), we will follow guidelines and recommendations from the CDC as well as the State and Local Health agencies. We have reviewed our crisis plans and making necessary adjustments to make sure that we are as prepared as possible for any medical or non-medical crisis that may impact us. At this point, it is recommended that we maintain our regular cleaning procedures in our schools, yet, we are adding procedures to ensure illnesses are not spread. They have stressed that we should approach the coronavirus the same as influenza.

If you have further questions or concerns about the coronavirus (COVID-19), you can view the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/> or [NC Department of Health and Human Services website](#).

Thank you for your continued support of our schools.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jerry V. Congleton,
Interim Superintendent