



03-12-2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Following this morning's conference call with the Merced County Department of Public Health regarding COVID-19, Atwater Elementary School District has received new precautionary guidance and will be implementing the following measures effective immediately as we are committed to the safety and well being of our staff and students:

- All school events including field trips, school assemblies, sporting events, competitions, etc. will be suspended through spring break (April 17th). However, this will be re-evaluated on a continual basis and there is potential for events scheduled in late April to also be suspended or cancelled.
- The California Department of Public Health advises that schools limit visitors by not allowing those with symptoms of fever and/or respiratory infection or who have a travel history over the course of the last 14 days to an area identified by the CDC as a Level 3 Travel Health Notice (currently identified as mainland Europe, China, Iran, South Korea).

The Merced County Department of Public Health is also advising caution when traveling to counties with community spread of the virus. As of this morning, that list includes:

- Contra Costa
- Los Angeles
- Riverside
- Sacramento
- San Francisco
- San Mateo
- Santa Clara
- Solano
- Stanislaus
- Yolo

There are still currently no cases within Merced County. We are continuing to monitor this situation very closely and will update families and staff as the situation develops.

Health and Safety Reminders:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick. If your child is sick, please keep them home from school.
- All children and staff members with fever (>100 F) should remain home from school and other activities until they have no fever for 24 hours, without fever medication.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched areas and surfaces.
- **Avoid unnecessary travel, and avoid travel to high risk locations with widespread COVID-19 community transmission.**
- **When in the community, practice “social distancing,” which is maintaining a distance of 6 feet from other individuals.**