



# Depew Public Schools

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Depew Public Schools has a plan in place to prevent or slow down the spread of communicable diseases. What are we doing at the school to prevent the spread of the coronavirus or any other virus?

I met with the custodians and maintenance staff last week and we have stepped up our sanitizing of the buildings and buses. This includes desks, door handles, stool handles and any surface that is touched regularly. We also have a sprayer that can spray the entire room and is nontoxic to students.

I have met with the head coaches and reminded them of washing hands and equipment.

Additionally, I held meetings with the principals and we are all getting the information out to help prevent an outbreak here at school.

All teachers have been reminded to have their students wash their hands regularly with soap and water. All students are trained to cough into the crease of their elbow.

Below are the recommendations given to us by the Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE) and we are doing these steps:

- Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, and do so **frequently**.
- Avoid close contact with those who are sick.
- Use alcohol-based hand sanitizers (60% alcohol or above) when hand-washing is unavailable.
- Avoid large crowds or travel to impacted areas.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue, and cough into your elbow.
- Clean frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household detergent and water.
- If your staff or students feel sick, encourage them to stay home unless they are seeking medical care.
- Get this year's influenza vaccine if you have not already done so.

Spring break is next week so here are the recommendations for those of you who are traveling outside of the United States.

**Steps for returning travelers from Level 2 or 3 countries:**

1. Take your temperature with a thermometer two times a day and monitor for fever. Also watch for cough or trouble breathing.
2. Stay home and avoid contact with others. Do not go to work or school for this 14-day period. Discuss your work situation with your district before returning to work or school.
3. Do not take public transportation, taxis, or ride-shares during the time you are practicing social distancing.
4. Avoid crowded places (such as shopping centers and movie theaters) and limit your activities in public.
5. Keep your distance from others (about 6 feet).

Please refer frequently to the CDC [Travelers Guidance](#) as other countries may be elevated to Level 2 or 3 at any time.

I understand being concerned and anxious, but the best way to stay healthy is take precautions and remain calm and vigilant. If we all practice preventative measures we should get through this time just like we do during the flu season. If your child is sick they should stay home as with any other illness. If you are diagnosed with the coronavirus or flu please be sure to call the office and let them know. At this time, please rest assured we are following recommendations to keep your child and our staff healthy and safe.

Respectfully,



Leon Hiatt

Superintendent