



**Joseph A. Bradley**  
*Superintendent of Schools*  
March 12, 2020

Dear Connellsville Area School District Community:

The Connellsville Area School District, in response to increasing concerns regionally and nationally in regards to the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV), is sharing information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to communicate important health-related information to our families. The purpose of this communication is to reinforce the CDC's recommendations regarding the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV).

Per Centers for Disease Control and Prevention :

- *"There is much to learn about the novel coronavirus that causes coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). Based on what is currently known about the virus, spread from person-to-person happens most frequently among close contacts (within about 6 feet). This type of transmission occurs via respiratory droplets. Transmission of novel coronavirus to persons from surfaces contaminated with the virus has not been documented. Transmission of coronavirus in general occurs much more commonly through respiratory droplets than through fomites. Current evidence suggests that novel coronavirus may remain viable for hours to days on surfaces made from a variety of materials. Cleaning of visibly dirty surfaces followed by disinfection is a best practice measure for prevention of COVID-19 and other viral respiratory illnesses in community settings" (CDC, 2019).*
- The most critical action that can be taken is to use disciplined hygiene practices. Recommendations include:
  - Washing hands often with soap and hot water for a minimum of 20 seconds, especially after bathroom use, before eating, and after blowing one's nose, coughing, or sneezing.
  - Avoiding touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
  - Avoiding close contact with people who are sick.
  - Staying home when sick.
  - Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched objects and surfaces.

In accordance with Governor Wolf's March 12, 2020 directive at 4:35PM CASD is:

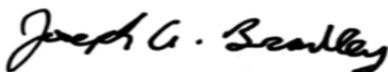
1. Postponing our CAMS musical and extracurricular competitions with more specific information to follow.
2. Indefinitely suspending all travel by students and employees.
3. Cancelling all outside usage of our buildings.

As part of the District's regular operations, the above practices are encouraged. CASD has begun an education campaign including the attached posters being displayed in all buildings. Additionally, rooms are cleaned nightly and disinfected on a rotating basis. An additional protocol of sanitizing all facilities utilizing the District's Karcher® Mister and hospital grade sanitizer has been implemented. The district has strategically installed twenty new hand sanitizing stations including at entrances of cafeteria serving lines. Please help us by reinforcing these health practices at home.

For additional information concerning Coronavirus from the CDC please visit: [Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/)

We are carefully monitoring the situation. Additional information will be provided in the future, as necessary.

Yours in Education,



Joseph A. Bradley