



**Tuscarora School District**  
**100 West Seminary St.**  
**Mercersburg PA 17236**

March 6, 2020

Dear Tuscarora School District Families,

As you are aware, recent reports regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19) have dominated the headlines. Concerns about the spread of the virus both in the U.S. and abroad are being closely monitored by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO). Similarly, Tuscarora School District is closely monitoring information received daily. Our primary concern is to ensure the health and safety of our students and staff. While it is important to continue monitoring the spread of COVID-19, it is equally important to take precautionary measures.

There is still much unknown about COVID-19; but we do know that taking typical flu-like precautions can drastically help prevent its spread. Our response to any public health concern is based on information and guidance provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Health and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. Both agencies have offered some general preventive actions to help thwart the spread of flu-like illnesses.

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with your hands.
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Use hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are unavailable.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. Cough or sneeze into the crease of your arm if tissues are unavailable.
- Stay home when you are sick until you are fever free for a minimum of 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medicine.
- Clean and disinfect high touch surface areas.

We are asking that you speak with your child(ren) to help them understand and practice these preventative measures which are always healthy habits. Within our schools, custodial staff are cleaning and sanitizing high touch surfaces throughout our buildings including desks, phones, doorknobs and all restroom surfaces with anti-bacterial cleaning products. Absentee rates are closely being monitored in addition to incidents reported to school nurse offices.

Please visit our district website for COVID-19 resource links. We will continue to update our website with additional resources and information as they become available at [www.tus.k12.pa.us](http://www.tus.k12.pa.us)

The Tuscarora School District will continue to monitor developments abroad, throughout the U.S., our state and region. We receive updates daily from officials at the state and county levels in addition to remaining in close contact with other school districts throughout our region. We remain vigilant in monitoring this information. As always, please contact us with concerns. Thank you.

Tuscarora Proud,

Mr. Rodney Benedick  
Superintendent of Schools

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Rodney N Benedick  
Superintendent  
voice 717.328.3127

■ Dr. Marcia D Stokes  
Business Manager  
■ fax 717.328.9316

■ Loretta A Martin  
Board Secretary  
■ [www.tus.k12.pa.us](http://www.tus.k12.pa.us)