

BLOOMINGTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

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In recent days, you have probably heard news reports and discussions regarding the novel coronavirus referred to as COVID-19. This virus, first identified in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China has caused an outbreak of respiratory illnesses. There have been cases identified in the United States; however, the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) still considers our risk for contracting the virus to be low.

Health officials believe the primary way the virus is spread is by droplet when an infected individual coughs or sneezes. Whether or not the virus is spread by touching contaminated surfaces has yet to be determined. The main symptoms of COVID-19 are fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Symptoms typically appear 2-14 days after exposure.

BISD custodians are working diligently to keep our facilities clean. In addition to regular cleaning, they are using the aerial Clorox-360 unit to disinfect our facilities.

All employees and students are encouraged to take measures to prevent the spread of the coronavirus as well as the influenza virus. In addition to adequate rest and nutrition, these measures include:

- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- 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.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- If you have not already received one, a flu shot is encouraged.

Since statistics and information are frequently changing, specific data will not be included here. For current information, you can visit the DSHS website at <https://www.dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/>. The site is being updated Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. For national information, you can visit the CDC website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Anglin or me.

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