

FACTS

- On March 11, 2020 the World Health Organization officially characterized COVID-19 as a *pandemic* (a disease prevalent over an entire country or the whole world)
- The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person
 - Between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet)
 - Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes
- These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs
- People are thought to be most contagious when they are most symptomatic (the sickest)
- Some spread might be possible before people show symptoms; there have been reports of this occurring with this new coronavirus, but this is not thought to be the main way the virus spreads
- It may be possible that a person can get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or possibly their eyes, but this is not thought to be the main way the virus spreads

THE BEST PREVENTION-Practice Good Hygiene

- Stop handshaking
- Wash your hands for 20 seconds or use alcohol-based sanitizer (*at least 60%*)
- Avoid food sharing
- Avoid touching your face (*eyes, nose, mouth*)
- Cover coughs and sneezes and dispose of tissues immediately
- Disinfect and sanitize surfaces and frequently touched items often
- Stay home when sick (*anyone with fever should remain home until fever-free for 24 hours without aid of fever-reducers*)
- Avoid close contact-practice social distancing

LEVEL 1: NO CONFIRMED CASES IN OUR COMMUNITY

Promote Awareness, Communicate, and Prepare

- We are remaining informed with the most up-to-date information and recommendations from the CDC, NC Department of Health and Human Services, and Davidson County Health Department
- We are providing accurate and factual information to school administration through principal meetings and electronic communications
- We are collaborating with personnel from Davidson County Health Department and Emergency Medical Services
- We are cancelling out-of-state school trips and professional development
- We are reviewing the DCS Pandemic Influenza Action Plan for adaptation and implementation if necessary
- We inventoried and ordered necessary disinfecting/sanitizing supplies
- We are continuing thorough disinfecting and sanitizing measures at all facilities with intensified processes
- We are communicating with DCHD when information about student/staff travels to affected areas is presented
- We conducted a workshop for custodial staff to review appropriate materials and methods for disinfecting and sanitizing facilities and buses
- We are reinforcing and encouraging good hygiene habits

- We are maintaining open communication with board of education members
- We continue to monitor attendance rates
- We provided information to parents with district letter
- We are identifying strategies to continue educating students if schools are required to close

LEVEL 2: CONFIRMED CASE IN REGION BUT NOT IN DCS SCHOOL

Assist in limiting spread in the community but minimizing educational disruption

- Schools will inform students and parents of the need to report any personal travel outside the community especially related to spring break
- We will suspend all school trips, extracurricular activities, and face-to-face professional development
- We will prohibit the use of our facilities by any outside/non-DCS group
- We will limit visitors to the schools to parents/guardians there for mandatory school business
- We will finalize plans to continue educating students in the event schools are required to close
- We will cancel gatherings of large groups of 100 or more
- We will implement a process for disinfecting and sanitizing classrooms and shared spaces between use by different groups of students
- We will identify critical job functions that continue to report if schools are required to close
- We will begin establishing personnel protocols to provide direction if schools are required to close
- We will introduce flexibility in the attendance policy to accommodate students identified to be at greater risk of serious impact
- We will begin planning by the Finance Department to ensure business operations continue if facilities are required to close

LEVEL 3: CONFIRMED CASE IN DCS SCHOOL

Limit spread in schools, expecting significant educational disruption

- We will inform students, parents, staff, and appropriate officials that there is a confirmed case within the school system
- The superintendent will upon recommendation by the Davidson County Health Department determine school closings (case-by-case/school-by-school or district-wide)
- We will cancel all after-school/child care programs that utilize DCS facilities
- We will establish school nutrition outlets in feeder patterns and communicate this availability to parents
- We will implement developed personnel protocols (may include alternate worksites and/or work hours for some employees)
- We will implement remote learning opportunities to ensure continuation of educating students
- We will sanitize closed facilities and invite inspection by local health officials prior to reopening those facilities
- We will develop a return to school plan