

Kent Sherrow
Superintendent of Schools
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Iron County C-4 School District



March 5, 2020

My fellow Blue Jays,

You may have seen some media coverage this week covering the 2019 coronavirus disease and the likelihood of it spreading in the United States. The news is filled with stories about travel restrictions, quarantine orders and financial effects due to this illness. It is important for you to know that we work closely with local health officials to monitor these types of situations. A component of our district's safety plan addresses how to respond to health crises.

The safety and well-being of our students are always our first priorities. During this cold and flu season, our custodial and transportation staff take special precautions to keep our buildings and buses clean and safe. Any type of influenza should be taken seriously and treated with the highest care. There are multiple cases of various strains of influenza both within our district and surrounding districts; please seek medical assistance should symptoms arise. Additionally, please keep your children home until fever free for 24 hours.

I know many of you have concerns about the spread of the novel (new) coronavirus (2019-nCoV) in the United States. While we have no confirmed cases in our district, or in surrounding communities, we assure you that if this would change, we will be prepared. Please know that your school is following this very closely. We receive regular updates from the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC) and the [Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services](#). You can click the respective links to find additional information on coronavirus.

If/when additional information needs to be shared with families, we will do so in a timely manner. Please know that there is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The best way to prevent any illness is to avoid being exposed. However, as a reminder, the CDC always recommends everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like the coronavirus or the flu, including:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze into your elbow or with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.

Thanks for your attention and continued partnership!

If you have specific questions about a family member's symptoms or illness, please contact your health care provider.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Kent Sherrow'.