



Elmira City School District

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February 28, 2020

Elmira City School District

430 W. Washington St.
Elmira, NY 14901
www.elmiracityschools.com

Re: Health Message from the Superintendent

Dear Elmira City School District Parents/Guardians and Staff:

We understand staff, parents, and students may have questions and concerns about the coronavirus disease, now called COVID-19. As we track the Coronavirus, we are writing to share important updates that we have received from the Center for Disease Control and others that we feel will be helpful to our families.

Our school health staff and administration works closely with the Chemung County Health Department and our regional medical community to ensure we have the most up to date information. Our Health Services office follows guidance provided by the New York State Department of Health and the New York State Education Department. The precautions, protocols and planning we undertake as a District are in accordance with guidelines from these governing health agencies and medical professionals.

Health officials advise to continue the diligent steps recommended for seasonal outbreaks of the flu, such as frequent hand-washing, diligent disinfection of frequently touched surfaces, covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue and encouraging staff and students to stay home when sick, are important to prevent the spread of contagious health conditions.

Student safety is our top priority. Please be assured that all of our District cleaning staff have been trained in the proper procedures for the cleaning and disinfection of school buildings. Our cleaners have appropriate disinfecting and cleaning supplies to use when cleaning our schools. They are vigilant when cleaning, especially contact surfaces such as door knobs, counters, physical education equipment, etc.

This is an emerging, rapidly changing public health situation. We encourage you to keep up to date about COVID-19, its treatment and prevention by visiting the following websites:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
<https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/coronavirus/NYSDOH>
https://www.health.ny.gov/contact/contact_information
www.schoolhealthny.com

As always, please feel free to reach out to our District Administration Offices or District Health Personnel with further questions or concerns. Thank you for your understanding and support as we address this health issue together.

Sincerely,

Hillary J. Austin
Superintendent of Schools