



Reedsport School District 105

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Dear Parents and Guardians,

With the recent diagnosis of coronavirus in Oregon we are doing everything we can as a district to keep our students safe. Included with this letter is a handout on the COVID-19 Coronavirus, how it spreads, the symptoms and where you can learn more information. While there are no confirmed cases in our community some have hit close to home in Washington and Umatilla Counties and their local districts. While this is a serious public health situation, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) continues to communicate that **the immediate risk to the general public remains low at this time.**

Yet in today's connected world, outbreaks of illness are always of concern. As with seasonal flu and strep infections, there are precautions we can all take to remain as healthy as possible. As recommended by health officials preventative measures include:

- Practice good hand hygiene and help your student learn to wash their hands really well. Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands. Use Alcohol-based hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available. (See attached info-sheet).
- When coughing and sneezing, cover your mouth and nose with a tissue. You can also cough or sneeze into your sleeve. Throw used tissues in the trash and immediately wash your hands with soap and water.
- Avoid sharing drinking glasses, cups, eating utensils, dishes, towels or other items. Wash these items thoroughly with soap and water after use.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick whenever possible.
- Practice good health habits: Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at home, work or school, especially when someone is ill.

It is important to keep students at home when they are ill – see the following descriptions. If your student has any of the following please keep them home from school: Temperature of 100.4 or higher, coughing, vomiting, diarrhea, any rash not yet diagnosed by a physician, red or pink itchy eye, and/or drainage from the eye and any contagious illness such as the chicken pox, strep throat or the flu. If you have concerns about your student's illness, health authorities are advising families to seek medical attention.

We understand that many of you may have questions about what the district and classroom are doing to address concerns about the COVID-19 Coronavirus. The Oregon Health Authority, is leading the state's response to the COVID-19 Coronavirus. We will follow the direction of public health officials should the illness spread to our area.

As a precaution, we are initiating additional plans for disinfecting and sanitizing all school environments to include all knobs and community surfaces daily and focusing on handwashing and good hygiene practices for blowing our nose, coughing, or sneezing. We are also placing reminders for good hygiene practices and increasing access to hand sanitizers, tissue and trash cans. You can help by assisting students in washing their hands frequently and practicing the prevention strategies listed above.

For more information on the COVID-19 Coronavirus you may find the following resources helpful:

- County Health Departments of Douglas and Coos counties
- Oregon Health Authority: healthoregon.org/coronavirus
- Centers for Disease Control (CDC): <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Please reach out to your student's school office with questions, concerns or needs.

Stay Healthy,

Jon Zwemke, superintendent