

Verdigris Public School

Michael Payne
Superintendent

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Dear Parents and Families,

You have likely seen a lot of recent media attention on the coronavirus (COVID-19). The following information is provided to help prevent the transmission and spread of coronavirus.

The virus, like many other illnesses including the flu, is spread between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet) via coughing or sneezing. The same good health habits that prevent other viruses like the flu, also prevent the spread of coronavirus and decrease the risk of getting sick:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer, with 60% alcohol, if soap and water are not available.
- Cough into a tissue or your elbow (not your hand), then throw tissue away and wash your hands.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid contact with people who are sick and stay home when you are sick.
- Keep students home if they are running a temperature or they report not feeling well, appear weak, or ill.
- Consult your healthcare provider if you or your child has health conditions that put you or your child at increased risk.

With Spring Break coming up, we are asking that anyone who travels to China, South Korea, Italy, Iran, Japan or any other **Level 2 or 3 country** as identified by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to self-quarantine for a period of 14 days before returning to school. This applies to all students, teachers, and other school or district staff. Please contact site or district administration if this occurs.

Additional guidance provided to districts from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Oklahoma Department of Health on prevention, planning, and how to respond to coronavirus can be found using the links below:

- [cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019/guidance-for-schools.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019/guidance-for-schools.html)
- [ok.gov/health2/Coronavirus Guidance for K-12 Schools.pdf](https://ok.gov/health2/Coronavirus%20Guidance%20for%20K-12%20Schools.pdf)

Teachers, staff, custodians, maintenance workers, and administrators are assisting in sanitizing and disinfecting all school areas by spraying and consistently cleaning during school hours, fogging rooms and other areas after school hours, as well as monitoring and promoting good sanitary habits, including washing hands frequently.

We all have a role to play in keeping students, staff, and families healthy and safe. You can help by staying informed, practicing good hygiene, and staying home or keeping students home if they have been running a fever or are exhibiting signs of a fever or sickness.

We are committed to keeping you informed and working with you to keep our school community safe.

Sincerely,



Michael Payne
Superintendent,
Verdigris Public Schools