



March 2, 2020

Dear Parents and MJSD Staff:

The CDC is currently responding to an outbreak of respiratory disease caused by a novel (new) coronavirus that was first detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province, China and which has now been detected in over 50 locations internationally, including cases in the United States. The virus causes a disease that has been named "coronavirus disease 2019" (abbreviated "COVID-19"). The COVID-19 situation is constantly evolving and changing. For the most up-to-date information visit the CDC's 2019 Novel Coronavirus website:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

It is also flu and respiratory disease season. Getting vaccinated for influenza, taking everyday preventive actions to stop the spread of germs, and taking flu antivirals if prescribed is still being recommended. There is currently no vaccine to prevent COVID-19 infection. However, as with any respiratory virus, students and school personnel can protect themselves and others by taking these every day common sense actions:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands. Germs spread this way.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick and for at least 24 hours after fever is gone without use of fever-reducing medicine.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

We understand there is uncertainty involved in this situation. We encourage you to contact your school nurse or the City of Menasha Health Department at (920) 967-3520 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Nancy McKenney, RDH, MS, Public Health Director  
City of Menasha Health Department

References:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/summary.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/2019-ncov-factsheet.pdf>