

WEST IRONDEQUOIT CENTRAL SCHOOLS

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Thursday, March 12, 2020

The West Irondequoit Central School District and all Monroe County Schools continue to actively monitor the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) with guidance from the NYS and Monroe County Departments of Health. The safety of our students and staff is always our top priority and we will practice caution to protect everyone's health and wellbeing.

CORONAVIRUS
(COVID-19)
CURRENT
DISTRICT STATUS

LEVEL 2

According to the State Department of Health, New Yorkers still have a low risk of contracting COVID-19. West Irondequoit is currently operating at a **LEVEL 2** as detailed in the chart at right.

This is a rapidly changing situation.

As of Thursday morning Monroe County has its first confirmed case. Schools have been advised to prepare for

COVID-19 and monitor illness among students and staff. We recommend that you make contingency plans for childcare now should schools need to close for an extended period. We know this may be difficult and, as always, appreciate your cooperation. Stopping the spread of illness is a community-wide responsibility and we encourage you and your children to practice healthy habits that include:

- **Frequent handwashing with soap for at least 20 seconds**
- **Avoid touching our eyes, nose and mouth**
- **Covering coughs or sneezes with your elbow**
- **Stay home when sick; seek medical attention when necessary**
- **Avoid close contact with people who are sick**

Schools are taking additional precautions to mitigate illness transmissions. If students/staff develop symptoms that include fever, shortness of breath and cough during the day, they will be isolated from others. We have also increased routine cleaning procedures in classrooms, hallways and bathrooms.

In situations like these, we encourage you to get information from credible sources. The New York State Dept. of Health has online resources for updates, key messages, FAQs, travel tips and more at: health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/coronavirus/.

Together, we can work to maintain a healthy and strong learning environment.

Sincerely,



Aaron R. Johnson, Ed. D
Superintendent of Schools



LEVEL 1

ACTIVELY MONITORING: NO CASES IN MONROE COUNTY

- More cleaning of common areas such as flat surfaces, door handles, hand rails, etc.
- Communicate to school community precautions to avoid spreading COVID-19
- Continue to monitor attendance and communicate with Monroe Co. health dept.
- Urge families/staff to stay home if sick
- Monitor illness among students /staff
- Review and update emergency plans
- Potentially limit all unnecessary travel
- Potentially limit large gatherings to only essential events or consider postponing

LEVEL 2

CONTAINMENT: CASES IDENTIFIED IN MONROE COUNTY

- Expand to cleaning less frequently used areas in addition to common areas
- Potentially limit/restrict school visitors
- Develop contingency plans and review business continuation plan
- Continue all Level 1 activities

LEVEL 3

MITIGATION: CONFIRMED CASES AMONG STUDENTS/STAFF

- Affected school(s) close for 24 hours while the local health dept. investigates and designs plan for further precautions to limit exposure (may include additional closure)
- Possibly cancel events (sports, plays, etc.)
- If extended closure, communicate to families about schoolwork and access points for supports (i.e. supplemental food/supplies)
- Communicate to staff about who reports to work and who can work from home
- Perform a deep clean of all areas

WELCOMING. NURTURING. INSPIRING.