



ELMORE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

100 H.H. Robison Drive
P.O. Box 817
Wetumpka, AL 36092

Phone: 334-567-1200
Fax: 334-567-1405

Richard E. Dennis, Superintendent
Jason M. Mann, CSFO

March 12, 2020

Dear Parents:

As you know, media coverage of the coronavirus is widespread and rapidly evolving. The Alabama State Department of Education has sent specific guidelines to implement during this time of heightened awareness of coronavirus. The intent of this letter is to provide parents with general information about the coronavirus as well as some specific details about our efforts in addressing the spread of viruses. Three links are: CDC (www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/summary.html), ADPH (www.ADPH.gov) and CNP (www.usda.gov/coronavirus).

The coronavirus is also known as COVID-19. The symptoms of this strain of coronavirus are fever, cough, and shortness of breath. It is spread from person to person by droplets when sneezing or coughing. Again, it is our understanding there are not yet any confirmed cases in Alabama.

Prevention

As with other respiratory viruses, there are simple steps that can help stop the spread of COVID-19:

1. Frequent handwashing with soap and water for 20 seconds.
2. Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
3. Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
4. Stay home when you are sick.
5. Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue or the bend of your elbow.
6. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Response

Strategies which have proven useful during past virus outbreaks remain in place in our school system and include the following: disinfection of surfaces such as desktops, tabletops, doorknobs, light switches, water fountains, faucet handles, and food preparation and service areas. These practices have been successful in minimizing the spread of influenza or other viruses, and an aggressive approach to surface disinfection will continue.

For now, our best advice is to practice responsible prevention of the spread of this virus and to keep students who are ill home from school. Consult your family physician if any symptoms of COVID-19 virus are present. Together, we will successfully navigate this matter, and more information will be shared as this situation evolves. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Richard E. Dennis, Superintendent

Every student empowered. Every student succeeds.

BOARD MEMBERS

Michael Morgan-Chairman Dale Bain-Vice Chairman Leisa Finley Kitty Graham Joey Holley David Jones Wendell Saxon