

A new coronavirus called 2019 Novel (new) Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) was first found in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China. This virus had not been found in humans before. This coronavirus can lead to fever, cough and trouble breathing or shortness of breath. There are diagnosed cases in China and new cases being diagnosed in a number of countries including the United States. The district is monitoring the situation and is following guidelines provided by the local, state, and federal agencies. The health and safety of our students and staff is our top priority.

WAJ is continuously monitoring incidents of illness, particularly those with flu-like symptoms. Like with all viruses and illnesses, there's tremendous reliance on individual precautions. We are asking parents to help in the effort to minimize the spread of virus by having your family follow recommendations from [The New York State Department of Health](#), including:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Stay home when you are sick
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.

A child who has a fever should remain at home until "fever-free" for at least 24 hours without any medication for fever. A child who has started medication/antibiotics needs to be on it for at least 24 hours before returning to school. Keeping a sick child at home will prevent the spread of illness in the classroom and in the community.

This is an emerging, rapidly changing situation. For questions please contact your local department of health or the NYS DOH Novel Coronavirus hotline at 1-888-364-3065.

Thank you for your continued support in keeping our students and staff safe.

Additional Resources are available by going to the links below.

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

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/prevention-treatment.html>

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

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

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

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