



PIEDMONT CITY
SCHOOL DISTRICT
EMPOWERING FOR THE FUTURE

502 Hood St. West
Piedmont, AL 36272

piedmont.k12.al.us

March 13, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians of Piedmont City Schools Students,

Piedmont City School District's administration is in constant contact with local and state health officials regarding the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). Although there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Calhoun County, school officials are considering possible scenarios relative to the spread of the virus. Piedmont City School System has implemented the recommended guidelines issued by the Alabama State Department of Education. We are committed to protecting our students, staff and community. The Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) and the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) are monitoring this situation and are updating school systems frequently as new information becomes available. The intent of this letter is to provide parents with information about our efforts in addressing the spread of the virus. Links for specific information on COVID-19 are: CDC (www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/summary.html) and ADPH (<http://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/>).

Prevention

The Piedmont City Schools staff are practicing enhanced school cleaning and disinfecting procedures daily. We encourage staff and students to use simple steps to help stop the spread of the virus.

- Frequent handwashing with soap and water for 20 seconds.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick (must be fever free without medicine for 48 hours).
- Cover your cough and sneeze with a tissue or the bend of your elbow.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Travel/Events (including Athletic Events)

The ALSDE has advised schools to cancel or limit any event where it would be expected to have 500 or more people gathered. Events will be considered on an individual basis.

- All non-essential travel will be suspended for students and staff.
- All school-sponsored trips scheduled through April 30, 2020 are to be postponed or cancelled. Parents will receive information about field trips from their school Principal.
- The Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) and the Alabama High School Athletic Association (AHSAA) will make recommendations on the status of Athletic Events.
- Families and staff members are encouraged to be cautious when making travel plans.

Visitors to the School

Visitors to the school during the regular school day, other than to check students in/out, will be prohibited until further notice.

Communication

In the event that we receive notification that a student or staff member has a confirmed case of the COVID-19 virus, administrators will consult with the ALSDE and the ADPH concerning how to proceed. There is a plan in place to provide instruction for all students should it be necessary to close the school for any period of time. Parents will be notified immediately using the system's regular notification system. In addition, all information will be available on all social media platforms and the schools' websites. With your support, the Piedmont City School System administration will be working to ensure the health and safety of all students and staff. New information will be shared as it becomes available. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we work through this situation together.

Respectfully,

Mike Hayes
Superintendent

Mike Hayes
Superintendent
mhayes@pcsboe.us
(256) 447-8831