



Altmar-Parish-Williamstown Central School District

District Office



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www.apwschools.org

March 4, 2020

Dear Parents & Guardians,

The District has been carefully watching and listening to multiple sources (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), Oswego County Health Department, New York State Education Department, etc.) regarding the new 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV). The situation is rapidly evolving. As of today, there have been 2 individuals diagnosed with this new coronavirus in New York State.

While we do not want to cause any unnecessary fear, we do want to inform you of some of the things we are doing as a district in an attempt to be proactive. They are as follows:

- Increasing nightly cleaning and sanitization of our schools, classrooms and school busses.
- Displaying posters throughout the schools as reminders and to educate everyone about good hygiene.
- Increasing the number of hand sanitizer dispensers throughout all of our buildings.
- Sending sick students, teachers, and staff home when they have flu-like symptoms.
- Monitoring levels of absenteeism by school building.
- Communicating with the local health department as needed.
- We are reviewing our district's emergency response plans.
- We recognize that this situation is rapidly evolving, so we will be posting and updating information as it becomes available re: the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) on our district website homepage.

According to the NYSDOH, while there is currently no vaccine to prevent this virus, these simple steps can help stop the spread of this and other respiratory viruses:

- 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.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home if / when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with your elbow or a tissue. If you use a tissue, be sure to place it in the trash once you are done using it.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

The following websites will provide you with additional information regarding the new 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV):

- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- <https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/coronavirus/>

If you have any additional questions, you are encouraged to call one of the following:

- The Novel Coronavirus Hotline at 1-888-364-3065.
- Your healthcare provider.
- One of our school nurses.

Please be sure to discuss the importance of good hygiene and personal protective measures with your children.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eric Knuth', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Eric Knuth
Superintendent of Schools