



School City of Mishawaka

Creating a Culture of Excellence

March 10, 2020

Dear Mishawaka School Families,

We want to continue to update you about the measures that School City of Mishawaka is taking to prevent the introduction and spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19) at your children's schools. We met today with other school leaders and officials from the St. Joseph County Department of Health (SJCDH). Now that local testing for the virus has begun, it is likely that we will see cases of the virus in our area.

If you or your child become sick:

- If your child shows symptoms of fever, cough and trouble breathing, call your primary care doctor. If you don't have a doctor, call the SJCDH at 574-235-9750.
- Call first. You will be advised what to do next.
- You may be asked to "self-quarantine" or stay at home for a number of days.
- You may also be asked to "self-monitor" or watch for symptoms to appear.

Thank you for continuing to reinforce good habits, including:

- Wash your hands regularly, especially after using the restroom and before preparing or consuming food. Using soap and hot water, wash for about 20 seconds. Be sure to also wash your fingertips.
- Avoid coughing or sneezing into your hands or in the air. Always try to cough or sneeze into a tissue, and then throw the tissue away. If you don't have a tissue, cough/sneeze into your arm.
- As much as you can, avoid touching your eyes, mouth and nose.
- If children are feeling sick, please keep them home from school. Allow them some time to feel better so that they do not risk infecting others. Students should be free from fever and other symptoms for 24 hours before returning to school.

Research shows school-aged children are at the lowest risk of contracting and becoming seriously ill from COVID-19. Please continue to monitor our website at [Mishawaka Schools Coronavirus Disease](#) where you can find more information. Finally, the link to the [Centers For Disease Control \(CDC\)](#) is the most reliable known source for information on COVID-19.

Sincerely,

Wayne Barker
School City of Mishawaka
Superintendent of Schools