

Dear District 41 Community,

We have been monitoring the progression of the Coronavirus around the world. In this scary time, I want to assure you that we are already taking precautions in our schools to minimize the spread of germs. We continue to receive updates and instruction from the DuPage County Health Department (DCHD), the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and the Regional Office of Education (ROE). Currently, all are communicating to us that the current risk in Illinois remains low.

In our schools we have increased deep cleanings and are making sure kids are washing hands and staying as germ free as possible. We ask that parents continue to follow the rules that have already been in place about keeping children home when sick. As a reminder, please keep children home for 24 hours after a fever breaks.

DCHD's Communicable Disease and Epidemiology (CDE) routinely monitors and investigates disease transformation and response. As with any global outbreak, the situation is rapidly evolving and recommendations are subject to change. District 41 will communicate about topics related to the Coronavirus when we receive new information.

Please continue to take preventive actions to keep your family safe and protect you and others from the spreading of viruses. Please follow these guidelines:

- When sick, stay home for 24 hours after a fever breaks (without the use of fever-reducing medications).
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue.
- Wash hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer when soap and water is not available.
- Stay home if you have been exposed to a family or household member who is sick.
- Cover your nose and mouth with a mask or cloth if you are sick and around people or at a mass gathering in a community where the pandemic is already occurring.
- Consult your healthcare provider if you have a concern for yourself or a family member who is showing symptoms of illness.
- Consult advisories when preparing for travel outside of the country, particularly to already impacted areas.

See below for resources provided by the DuPage County Health Department and The Centers for Disease Control.

<https://www.dupagehealth.org/DocumentCenter/View/2266/IDPH-CDC-Coronavirus-Fact-Sheet-What-You-Should-Do-w-IDPH-Hotline-PDF>
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/summary.html>

Thank you for your attention to this important health and safety information. Please know that all districts across DuPage County are extremely fortunate to have the support of our Regional Office of Education. The DuPage ROE is extremely proactive and provides extensive support to public school districts as we work to stay on top of developing situations such as this. Rest assured that District 41 is taking this very seriously and that we have tremendous support from our ROE and other agencies.

Dr. Melissa Kaczowski
Superintendent
Glen Ellyn School District 41