

March 12, 2020

Dear Troy CSD Families:

The Troy City School District continues to monitor the situation regarding COVID-19 (coronavirus) and would like to share some updates with you.

We have been in direct contact with the Rensselaer County Department of Health on a regular basis and will continue to follow guidance from them, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), and New York State Education Department.

At this time, there are still no confirmed cases of the virus in Rensselaer County, including the Troy City School District.

Schools remain open and events are on as scheduled. We will continue to update you should the situation change or if mandated to do so by the CDC or New York State. Additional info can be found below:

Upcoming field trips and events

There is currently no ban on domestic travel and we are following State and CDC guidelines for travel-related issues. Unless otherwise stated, all events are currently on as scheduled. We strongly request that you stay home if you are not feeling well or if you're showing signs of fever, cough or respiratory illness.

Preventative measures

- The District continues to clean and disinfect high-traffic and high-touch areas in our buildings. We have confirmed that buses are being disinfected nightly and between runs as well.
- We encourage everyone to continue to follow good hygiene habits: thorough and frequent hand-washing with soap, and the use of hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available; avoiding touching your face; and avoiding close contact with people who are sick.
- Please do not send in homemade food to be shared.
- Students should not share drinking vessels or food utensils.
- The CDC only recommends the wearing of masks by people who exhibit respiratory illness symptoms. It does not recommend the wearing of masks by healthy individuals. We encourage students and staff to refrain from wearing masks to school if they are not sick.

School Closure

Earlier this week, the Governor announced that if a school has a student that tests positive for COVID-19, then that school will be closed for at least 24 hours. During that time, and in coordination with the Rensselaer County Department of Health, the situation will be assessed and a determination will be made regarding whether to close the school for a longer period of time.

Attendance

We cannot stress this enough: if your child is showing signs of a fever, cough or respiratory illness, please keep them home. If they are observed to be showing these symptoms they may be removed from class. Students cannot return to school until the child is without fever for 24 hours, without the assistance of fever-reducing medicine.

When reporting an absence to your school, please leave details (fever, cough, strep throat, etc.) on the attendance call line. We are actively monitoring attendance throughout the district.

We will continue to monitor the situation very closely and make determinations with our students' and staff's safety in mind. Should the District become aware that a student or staff member has been diagnosed with COVID-19, we will notify staff and parents/guardians immediately.

Sincerely,



John Carmello
Superintendent of Schools