

Dr. Darrell Lockwood  
Superintendent

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**CHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT, SAU #82**  
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Sheryl Rich  
Business Administrator

Donna Consalvi  
Executive Assistant

March 5, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

On Monday we published the first notification on the cautions, concerns and preparations taking place within our school district with regard to COVID-19. That correspondence was primarily meant to notify you that we are aware of the issue, developing plans to address it and to stress practicing good hygiene (hand washing) and to have youngsters stay home when they are ill. Please accept this second correspondence as an update.

We are continuing to monitor, evaluate, and update our preparedness to address any potential local area outbreak of COVID-19. We are receiving guidance and recommendations from health officials, including the [Center for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (CDC) and [Department of Health and Human Services](#) (DHHS). We recognize the importance of planning and want to assure you that the decisions we make moving forward regarding the health and safety of our students, faculty, and staff remain our top priority.

CDC guidance instructs travelers who visited countries with a Level 3 alert (China, Iran, Italy and South Korea, as of 3-4-2020) to "stay home and monitor their health for 14 days after returning to the United States." It also instructs travelers from countries with a Level 2 alert (Japan, as of 3-4-2020) to "monitor their health and limit interactions with others for 14 days after returning to the United States."

While we are not aware of any students or staff members who have traveled to any of these identified areas, we plan to act in a manner consistent with this updated CDC guidance. **We are asking any students and educators who have traveled to level 3 risk areas to self-quarantine for 14-days after leaving the risk areas and to contact their medical provider if they present symptoms. We would also request that the school nursing staff be notified of this self-quarantine. The nursing staff will then work to develop an agreed upon return date.** Consistent with previous guidance from the CDC, it is permissible at this time for siblings of students who traveled to Level 3 areas to attend school, but they should continue to monitor their health. We may, upon review of individual situations and out of an abundance of caution, ask these students to voluntarily self-quarantine.

During these voluntary self-quarantines, we will make remote instructional options available to students where appropriate and we will provide hard copies of work to be done at home. No students will be penalized for absences related to a self-quarantine.

Our custodial staff has been directed to disinfect hard surfaces such as desks, doorknobs, handrails, and other high traffic areas on a regular basis. We are ordering additional hand sanitizer for classrooms and cleaning supplies as needed. Our bus companies have sanitized the buses and will continue to do so on a regular basis.

We appreciate your cooperation and understanding as we all work together to navigate this situation. We will continue to update you with any changes and updates.

Should you have specific questions and/or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Principal Lacroix or me by email or phone.

Sincerely,

*Darrell J. Lockwood*

Darrell J. Lockwood, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools