

Grand Rapids Public Schools

Dear GRPS Staff and Parent/Guardian(s),

We have received several communications requesting information on how GRPS is handling the Coronavirus. Though there are no confirmed cases in Michigan, we want to assure you that GRPS is doing everything possible to prevent the spread of Coronavirus and other communicable diseases. Grand Rapids Public Schools works with the Kent County Health Department to adhere to the Michigan Public Health Code (Act 368 of 1978 as amended), the School Code of 1976 (Act 451 of 1976 as Amended), and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services guidelines for the prevention, control, and containment of communicable diseases in schools.

As outlined in **Board policy**, **Grand Rapids Public Schools will exclude a student from school who is suspected of having a communicable disease or infection and is considered a health threat to the school population as defined by law and related rules.**

Any potential decision to close schools due to communicable disease outbreaks shall be made by the Superintendent, in consultation with the Kent County Health Department medical staff and/or for review to the review team.

As always, encourage your student(s) to practice hand hygiene at home and school. Best practices for helping prevent the spread of disease and illness include:

- **Stay home when you are sick.** If possible, stay home from work, school, and errands when you are sick. You will help prevent others from catching your illness. Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- **Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth.**
- **Cover coughs and sneezes.** Use a tissue to cover coughs and sneezes, then dispose of the tissue. When a tissue is not available, cough or sneeze into your elbow.
- **Clean and disinfect surfaces or objects.** Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at home, work or school, especially when someone is ill. Find additional CDC resources on how to clean and disinfect schools here: [cdc.gov/flu/school/cleaning.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/flu/school/cleaning.htm)
- **Wash hands for 20 seconds.** Washing hands often under clean, running water can help prevent the spread of germs. For more guidance see the **CDC: When and How to Wash Your Hands**. If you cannot wash your hands, use alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60-95% alcohol.

For more information on the Coronavirus, please visit the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)** website and/or the **Michigan Department of Health and Human Services** website.

GRPS will continue to follow the guidelines of the CDC, MDHHS, and KCHD surrounding communicable diseases.

Sincerely,

Ronald Gorman, Ph.D.

Interim Superintendent

Rockford Public Schools

Dear Rockford Parents and Staff:

Although there are no confirmed cases of the Coronavirus in the state of Michigan, please know that Rockford Public Schools is monitoring all information on the Coronavirus as it becomes available. Rockford Public Schools will continue to provide updates when released by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and the Kent County Health Department. In the meantime, please continue to follow the normal precautionary measures as outlined by the [National Association of School Nurses](#):

- Stay home when you are sick. If possible, stay home from work, school, and errands when you are sick. You will help prevent others from catching your illness.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth. Germs spread this way.
- Cover coughs and sneezes. Use a tissue to cover coughs and sneezes, then dispose of the tissue. When a tissue is not available, cough or sneeze into your elbow.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces or objects. Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at home, work or school, especially when someone is ill.
- Wash hands for 20 seconds. Washing hands often under clean, running water can help prevent the spread of germs. If you cannot wash your hands, use alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60-95% alcohol.

For more information on the prevention of the Coronavirus, details can be found on the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#), the [Michigan Department of Health and Human Services](#) or the [Kent County Health Department](#).

Thank you,
Dr. Mike Shibler
Superintendent of Schools

Wyoming Public Schools

Dear Wyoming Public Schools Community:

Wyoming Public Schools, in collaboration with the Kent Intermediate School District, is continuing to work with the Kent County Health Department regarding our shared Coronavirus concerns. Kent County Health Department is, in turn, being advised by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and the Center for Disease Control for direction during this time of anticipation and uncertainty. Our combined efforts are focused on learning as much as we can about precautions schools, students, staff and parents should take regarding the contraction and spread of the disease.

Kent County Health Department has a significant number of resources available on their [website](#). Their website resources are robust because most of the precautionary

measures for Coronavirus are very similar to those taken to combat the spread of the flu and the common cold.

As a result of the flu season, our custodial, maintenance and transportation staff have, and will, continue to thoroughly clean surfaces in each of our buildings and buses to reduce the risk of exposure to all viruses for students, staff, and guests.

We will provide more information as it becomes available.

Respectfully,

Craig Hoekstra
Superintendent - Wyoming Public Schools