



# Aleutians East Borough School District

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**Serving the children in the Alaskan communities of:  
Akutan, Cold Bay, False Pass, King Cove, and Sand Point**  
[www.aebbsd.org](http://www.aebbsd.org)

March 6, 2020

Dear AEBSB Families,

The coronavirus, also known as COVID-19, is a new type of flu that is emerging in several locations around the world and in the USA. So far, there are no reported cases in Alaska, but that is likely to change soon.

Here at AEBSB schools, we are taking steps to prevent the outbreak and spread of COVID-19 should it arrive here. We are asking families to assist us with these efforts by taking some steps at home. From what we have learned from health care professionals, the best defense against the spread of germs is frequent and effective handwashing.

#### AEBSB Actions:

- ✓ Increase sanitation of surfaces and frequently touched objects
- ✓ Teach proper hand washing <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IisgnbMfKvI>
- ✓ Establish hand sanitizing stations in schools
- ✓ Encourage students and staff to stay home when sick
- ✓ Change handshaking and hugging routines; elbow bumps are good!

#### Family Actions:

- ✓ Wash hands frequently; sing "Baby Shark" or "ABCs" to time the task
- ✓ Use hand sanitizer
- ✓ Practice coughing/sneezing into a tissue or elbow if wearing long sleeve shirt
- ✓ Try not to touch face
- ✓ Keep children home if they are sick
- ✓ Call the school if your child has flu-like symptoms

The school district is developing a plan for continuing educational services in the unlikely event we must close schools. The schools' goal will be to provide basic home-based instruction in the core subjects.

#### AEBSB Actions:

- ✓ Communicate via AEBSB Facebook Page/Website/E-mails/phone calls/letters home
- ✓ Coordinate educational services off-site should the schools close

#### Family Actions:

- ✓ Provide updated contact information to the school (Very important!)
- ✓ Watch for updates from the school
- ✓ Plan for childcare should schools need to close

We will do our best to keep you informed of new developments. In the meantime, let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Patrick Mayer, Superintendent