



DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Promoting and protecting health, well-being, self-sufficiency, and safety of all in Marin County.



February 4, 2020

Dear Administrators, Teachers, Staff, and Parents:

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This letter is to provide an update on the novel coronavirus outbreak currently centered in China, and local measures to protect our community. Marin County Public Health continues to work closely with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to limit risk to local residents. There are now six confirmed cases in California, and no persons under investigation for possible coronavirus illness in Marin County.

The CDC and Marin County Public Health recommend that any adult or child traveling from mainland China should be excluded from school for 14 days after they left China. Persons who have arrived from China prior to February 3, 2020 are at lower risk and do not need to be excluded.

Travelers returning from China are being advised to avoid public activities and gatherings, and self-monitor at home by remaining alert for fever, cough, or difficulty breathing. If someone develops these symptoms, they should contact their healthcare provider immediately by phone, prior to traveling to a healthcare facility. Public Health will be assisting in home monitoring individuals who are at risk for coronavirus.

Schools are advised to work with students who are under home monitoring to arrange supports, to help keep them up to date with their lessons.

The risk of spread of coronavirus locally remains very low. Importantly, influenza continues to circulate in Marin. Students, parents, staff and visitors should take every-day precautions to prevent the spread of infections including the common cold and flu.

- Encourage students and staff to stay home when they are sick.
 - Those who have a fever at school should go home and stay home until fever-free for at least 24 hours.
 - Separate sick students and staff from others until they can be picked up to go home.
- Promote hand hygiene among students and staff through education, scheduled time for handwashing, and availability of soap and water and/or hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your face, particularly your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Teach and encourage proper cough etiquette—cough or sneeze into a tissue, sleeve, or arm (do not use hands).

- Perform routine surface cleaning.

For up-to-date information regarding 2019-nCoV, see the [Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\) website](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html) at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html> and at <https://www.marinhhs.org/phupdate/ph-advisory-novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov>.

We understand that this is a rapidly evolving situation that can cause worry and concern. We will continue monitor the situation and share information with our school community as it becomes available. Please do not hesitate to call the Public Health Office with any questions or concerns.

Yours in Health,

Matt

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