



February 28, 2020

Dear Placerville Families,

We wanted to reach out to let you know that we are continuing to gather important information about the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) recently identified in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China. We are closely monitoring the situation and as of today, there are no cases of coronavirus in schools.

**What are we doing?**

Placerville Union School District remains in contact with agency partners such as California Department of Health Care Services, the California Department of Public Health, the California Department of Education, El Dorado County Public Health Department, and the El Dorado County Office of Education, for ongoing information, guidance, and a coordinated effort regarding this virus.

We are working with our school staff to reiterate to our children about the importance of proper and frequent handwashing and also routinely cleaning frequently touched surfaces.

We already utilize medical grade disinfectants and cleaning products to keep our schools and classrooms sanitary and safe. We will also ensure classrooms have appropriate hand sanitizer in addition to soap and water.

**What can you do?**

- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.
- Stay home when you are sick. Remain at home until fever has been gone for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medicines.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Seek immediate medical care if symptoms become more severe.
- Be sure to get a flu vaccine! It is not too late, even though it won't protect against COVID-19, it IS highly recommended.

The CDC does not recommend the use of face masks among healthy individuals, however, it is important that anyone wearing a mask be treated with respect and not fear. Also, the N95 respirator masks are not designed for and should not be worn by children.

If you would like additional information regarding COVID-19, please see: The California Department of Public Health website at: <https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/nCOV2019.aspx>

Centers for Disease Control (CDC) website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Thankfully, at this time the health risk to the general public in CA from COVID-19 remains low, especially for children. Our schools will take common sense precautions to prevent the spread of all infectious diseases. We also know the situation regarding COVID-19 will continue to evolve and we will update you with new information as we receive it. We want you to know that the safety and wellness of our entire Placerville family is a top priority. If you have questions you may contact me at 530-622-7216.

Thank you so much and we will remain on top of this situation and keep you informed.

Sincerely,  
Eric Bonniksen  
Superintendent