

**WILLINGBORO PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
WILLINGBORO, NEW JERSEY 08046-2847



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ACTING SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

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Dear Willingboro Employees:

With the recent reports of the Corona Virus, COVID-19 in our State, I want you to know that I understand your concerns and that you have many questions surrounding it. I am writing you to assure you that Willingboro Public Schools continues to take the necessary precautions pertaining to COVID-19. In our efforts to be vigilant, we are providing some information to the Willingboro Staff.

The District has multiple policies and procedures regarding communicable diseases and how to proceed if posed with particular cases. Additionally, we are continuing to follow the Center for Disease Control and the New Jersey Department of Health recommendations for reducing the spread of a communicable disease.

This letter is intended to reinforce the ways in which we can work together to prevent the spread of viruses in our schools and community:

- Frequently washing hands with soap and water
- Remaining home when you are sick
- Keeping children home when they are sick
- Teaching your children the proper use of hand sanitizers
- Model covering when coughing and sneezing

The District continues to work with its partners at the Department of Education, the Center for Disease Control and the Department of Health. As further guidance becomes available, we will communicate it immediately.

In the meantime, below are several links to the information regarding communicable diseases from the New Jersey Department of Health for your consideration. Also, attached is a flyer with information on COVID-19 flyer.

NJ Department of Health: <https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml>  
Center for Disease Control: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/index.html>  
Department of Homeland Security: [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)

Sincerely,

  
Nadine Tribbett  
Acting Superintendent of Schools

Attachment

## What is coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)?

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness that can spread from person to person. The virus that causes COVID-19 is a novel coronavirus that was first identified during an investigation into an outbreak in Wuhan, China.

## Can people in the U.S. get COVID-19?

COVID-19 is spreading from person to person in China, and limited spread among close contacts has been detected in some countries outside China, including the United States. At this time, however, this virus is NOT currently spreading in communities in the United States. Right now, the greatest risk of infection is for people in China or people who have traveled to China. Risk of infection is dependent on exposure. Close contacts of people who are infected are at greater risk of exposure, for example health care workers and close contacts of people who are infected with the virus that causes COVID-19. CDC continues to closely monitor the situation.

## Have there been cases of COVID-19 in the U.S.?

Yes. The first case of COVID-19 in the United States was reported on January 21, 2020. The current count of cases of COVID-19 in the United States is available on CDC's webpage at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-in-us.html>.

## How does COVID-19 spread?

The virus that causes COVID-19 probably emerged from an animal source, but now it seems to be spreading from person to person. It's important to note that person-to-person spread can happen on a continuum. Some diseases are highly contagious (like measles), while other diseases are less so. At this time, it's unclear how easily or sustainably the virus that causes COVID-19 is spreading between people. Learn what is known about the spread of newly emerged coronaviruses at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/transmission.html>.

## What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

Patients with COVID-19 have had mild to severe respiratory illness with symptoms of

- fever
- cough
- shortness of breath

## What are severe complications from this virus?

Many patients have pneumonia in both lungs.

## How can I help protect myself?

The best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19.

## There are simple everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses. These include

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- 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.

## If you are sick, to keep from spreading respiratory illness to others, you should

- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

## What should I do if I recently traveled to China and got sick?

If you were in China within the past 14 days and feel sick with fever, cough, or difficulty breathing, you should seek medical care. Call the office of your health care provider before you go, and tell them about your travel and your symptoms. They will give you instructions on how to get care without exposing other people to your illness. While sick, avoid contact with people, don't go out and delay any travel to reduce the possibility of spreading illness to others.

## Is there a vaccine?

There is currently no vaccine to protect against COVID-19. The best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19.

## Is there a treatment?

There is no specific antiviral treatment for COVID-19. People with COVID-19 can seek medical care to help relieve symptoms.

