HUENEME ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT

"Inspiring and empowering every student to thrive every day."

205 N. Ventura Road, Port Hueneme, CA 93041-3065 · www.hueneme.org · 805-488-3588

DR. CHRISTINE WALKER Superintendent HELEN COSGROVE Assistant Superintendent DR. CARLOS DOMINGUEZ Deputy Superintendent DAVID RAGSDALE Assistant Superintendent

March 6, 2020

Dear Hueneme ESD Community:

As we communicated earlier this week, we will continue to regularly update our community with information about coronavirus/COVID-19 and its impact on our schools. We continue to monitor the situation through our county and state public health and education offices. There are still no confirmed cases in Ventura County, and no recommendation has been made to alter regular school schedules and activities.

We will continue our normal classroom and school facility cleaning procedures and we have begun implementing additional measures for disinfecting our campuses and offices. We wish to share the following information with you:

- 1. As part of the Hueneme Elementary School District's Pandemic Response Protocol, the District is prioritizing sanitizing common surfaces such as doorknobs, light switches, drinking fountain handles, desktops, sinks, bathrooms, thermostats, school bus seats and more. These areas will be cleaned with disinfectant cleaners every day.
- 2. In addition, starting next week, the District will begin disinfecting using either the Total Clorox 360 System electrostatic sprayer or a conventional sprayer. The cleaning product that will be used is approved by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and is on their list to be used as a disinfectatant against coronavirus.
- 3. Hand sanitizer stations containing an alcohol based sanitizer are in all classrooms and common areas. Students may also bring their own hand sanitizers to school for their personal use.
- 4. Students at the junior high schools who move classrooms each period will be encouraged to use hand sanitizer at the beginning of every period.
- 5. Our school nurses have prepared a video that will be shown to all students and staff demonstrating the proper way to sneeze and wash hands.

In an effort to discourage students coming to school sick, all schools are suspending attendance awards for the remainder of the school year. We know many students have worked really hard for attendance awards, and this may be disappointing to some, but we want to ensure we are not doing anything that would encourage students to come to school when they are sick.

In the event of a significant outbreak of COVID-19, the public health department <u>may</u> close some or all of our schools for an undetermined length of time. Families are encouraged to develop contingency plans for childcare in case schools are closed.

Please remember the following measures to help prevent the spread of COVID-19:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Keep your children home when they 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.
- Individuals with chronic health issues and/or individuals experiencing severe symptoms should be evaluated by a medical professional.
- Get vaccinated for the flu every year.

We also wish to remind our community that we remain steadfastly committed to observing everyone's civil rights. District programs, activities, practices and employment shall be free from discrimination, harassment, intimidation and bullying based on race, color, ancestry, national origin, immigration status, ethnic group identification or where anyone may have traveled.

By working together to follow these important guidelines, we can help keep our students, staff and community healthy. We will continue to communicate on a weekly basis or more frequently if needed. All communication will be sent via SMS/text message and posted on our district website.

Thank you,

Dr. Christine Walker Superintendent

Christine Walker