



## DYER COUNTY SCHOOLS

*Achieving Academic Excellence*

159 Everett Avenue

Dyersburg, TN 38024-5196

731.285.6712 • fax 731.286.6721

[www.dyercs.net](http://www.dyercs.net)

Dear families and employees of Dyer County Schools,

Given the recent elevated attention to the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) in national and local media, I want to reach out and share with you information and important health tips.

There are common coronaviruses that circulate in the United States every year which usually cause respiratory tract illnesses much like the common cold. Symptoms such as fever and cough resemble seasonal flu and the best way to prevent infection with any respiratory virus is to use the same preventive strategies used during a common cold and flu season:

- Remember it is not too late for a flu vaccination. See your health care provider for additional information.
- **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 rub.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth since germs spread this way.
- Cough into the sleeve of your shirt or use tissues then properly dispose of after use.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- If you are sick with flu-like symptoms, CDC recommends that you stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone except to get medical care. (Your fever should be gone after 24 hours without the use of a fever-reducing medicine.)

If the absenteeism percentage of students and staff at any location begins to spike, we will work with cleaning staff to provide extra sanitation efforts. This includes extra cleaning of high contact areas as well as other parts of the school. To this date, our sanitization protocol has allowed our schools to remain open during flu season.

It is our goal to keep students, employees, and the community healthy. Please remember that any locally confirmed cases will be immediately reported by healthcare officials, and the CDC will respond accordingly. Absolutely no one who is diagnosed with COVID-19 will be allowed to return to school or work until they are cleared by healthcare officials. In the event of a confirmed, local outbreak of the COVID-19, Dyer County Schools will cooperate fully with the proper authorities and, in collaboration with the CDC, communicate our emergency response plan to all stakeholders.

Larry Lusk  
Director of Dyer County Schools