

# *South Lewis Central School District*

**Mr. Douglas Premo, Superintendent**

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Dear Parents/Guardians:

South Lewis Central Schools has been carefully monitoring the information regarding COVID-19, caused by the coronavirus. We have been adhering to guidance from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), the Lewis County Department of Health, and the New York State Education Department (NYSED).

## **Cleaning Protocols**

The District has infectious disease protocols and has been taking steps, such as cleaning and disinfecting throughout our schools in order to help minimize the spread of any variety of virus and illness. This includes:

- Cleaning high-contact surfaces that are touched by many different people (e.g. handrails and door knobs)
- Dusting, wet mopping and/or auto-scrubbing floors
- Vacuuming of entryways and high traffic areas
- Removing trash
- Cleaning restrooms
- Wiping heat and air conditioner vents
- Spot cleaning walls and carpets

Additionally, special attention is being given to high-risk locations such as health offices, lunchrooms, athletic/locker rooms.

## **Personal/Community Preventative Measures**

There are also a number of steps that students, staff, and community members can take to minimize the spread of all respiratory illnesses, including COVID-19, according to the Department of Health. These include:

- Washing hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds (or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer when washing is not an option)
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces
- Stay home when you are sick

In addition, New York has established a COVID-19/Novel Coronavirus Hotline which can provide additional information. Call 1-888-364-3065 with questions or concerns.

### **District Preparedness**

The District has already conducted internal meetings with key staff, participated in Regional meetings with area leaders and health officials, viewed State/Federal webinar updates and will continue to follow guidance as provided by the CDC, NYSDOH, NYSED and Lewis County Public Health.

We will monitor information as it pertains to all issues but especially for medically fragile students and staff, school travel, and large group gatherings. Additionally, while at this time we have no firm or valid indication that local, regional or state-wide school closures will be recommended or required, we are beginning discussions regarding the possibilities of the continuity of educational services should such an action take place.

We recognize the situation is fluid and rapidly evolving. Therefore, while we are doing due diligence in preparation, we all must recognize a need for flexibility and adjustment.

Please know that, as always, the health and safety of our students and staff is our highest priority. We will remain vigilant in our efforts to help prevent the spread of illness.

Sincerely,



Douglas Premo  
Superintendent of Schools