



New Waverly ISD

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Dr. Darol Hail, Superintendent

Sheri O'Hagan, Secretary

Dear Bulldog Family,

By now, we know that you are aware that the coronavirus or COVID-19 is causing an outbreak of respiratory illness throughout the United States and globally. It is believed that COVID-19 can be spread through the air when an infected person coughs or sneezes, much in the same way the flu and other respiratory viruses are spread. Symptoms can be fever, cough, or difficulty breathing. Persons considered most at risk include those who have traveled to China, the elderly, those who are immunocompromised and/or diagnosed with a chronic health condition, or those in close contact with persons who are infected with COVID-19.

We want to reassure you that NWISD continues to monitor this situation closely, seeking guidance from our local health officials, including the Walker County Department of State Health Services, the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), the Texas Education Agency (TEA), as well as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Based on the current information, health officials are recommending local communities and schools should take the same precautions against COVID-19 as we take to prevent the spread of everyday illnesses like the common cold or the flu:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. This can be done easily with your child by telling them to sing the Happy Birthday song twice. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cough or sneeze into the inside elbow of your arm.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces, such as door knobs or handles, phones and headsets, keyboards, remote controls, etc.

Here are some trustworthy websites and resources that you might find helpful:

<https://www.dshs.texas.gov/news/updates.shtm>

www.cdc.gov/COVID19

www.dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/

We encourage you to contact the DSHS COVID-19 Call Center at 1-877-570-9779 (Hours: 7:00 am - 8:00 pm Mon-Fri) or email DSHS at coronavirus@dshs.texas.gov should you have any questions regarding more in-depth information related to the coronavirus.

Our custodial staff has been hard at work over Spring Break continuing their routine cleaning procedures and protocols on each campus and performing additional deep cleaning methods while using hospital-grade disinfectant cleansers.

We can protect our students, teachers, staff, and the broader community by using simple everyday actions that protect people from other types of respiratory viruses. Our teachers, health clinic personnel, and staff are actively encouraging these simple and effective habits of frequent handwashing, covering every cough or sneeze, and cleaning classroom and cafeteria tables/surfaces frequently. This is important not just to help prevent the spread of coronavirus, but to help prevent the spread of other infections that can lead to student illness and absences.

Thank you for your support of our district, students, teachers, and staff.

Sincerely,
Celeste Roberts, RN, MSN, District School Nurse

“Together We Can”