
Port Edwards Public Schools

801 Second Street, Port Edwards, WI 54469-1301
715-887-9000
Elementary School FAX: 715-887-9095
John Edwards Middle & High Schools FAX: 715-887-9040
www.pesd.k12.wi.us

February 28, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians:

The Port Edwards School District values the health and well-being of our students, staff and families. We work throughout the year to promote healthy schools. Safety is always our priority.

As the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) share more information about COVID-19, or the coronavirus, we want you to know that we are regularly in contact with the Wood County Health Department. Our staff work to plan and respond to emerging communicable disease concerns following the guidance of the public health department and CDC recommendations.

Schools are being encouraged to update their pandemic plans given that the CDC is recommending Americans prepare for the likely spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19). To that end, I have been in contact with key staff to review and update the school district plans as necessary. Earlier this year, in response to the flu season, I directed our maintenance staff to be extra-vigilant in the cleaning practices and to take time to make sure that we disinfect the multiple touchpoints in our schools regularly.

A continued theme from public health officials is that it is currently flu and respiratory disease season and getting vaccinated for influenza, taking [everyday preventive actions](#) to stop the spread of germs, and taking flu antivirals if prescribed is recommended. CDC always recommends everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses, including:

- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water
- Help your students to wash their hands well
- Do not drop off your sick child at school
- Stay home when you're sick
- Cover your nose and mouth when coughing and sneezing
- Avoid close contact with anyone with cold or flu-like symptoms

Links below to the Centers for Disease Control information about COVID-19:

- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html>

Links to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services information about COVID-19:

- <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/disease/covid-19.htm>
- <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/outbreaks/index.htm>

Link to the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction webpage:

- <https://dpi.wi.gov/sspw/2019-novel-coronavirus>

The COVID-19 situation is constantly evolving and changing. We understand there is uncertainty involved in this situation. We plan to keep you informed as needed. We encourage you to contact the district school nurse or local public health department if you have further questions. The contact number for the health department is 715-421-8911.

Finally, both the CDC and the State Health Department have communicated that the concern about COVID-19 for the United States and Wisconsin is low at this time. Again, for more information please review the resources listed above.

Sincerely,

Kyle Cronan, District Administrator