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Dear School Families,

As many of you may have heard, the first case of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus, most recently named COVID - 19, has been confirmed in Wisconsin. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) is closely monitoring an outbreak of respiratory illness caused by a novel (new) coronavirus. The CDC page will be updated regularly on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays - See [LINK](#).

**District Preparation** - As a school district, we are closely monitoring the situation surrounding COVID-19 and are working on a comprehensive response plan with our Village Nurse, North Shore Health Department, CDC and other agencies. The District is in the process of determining how to best respond if the virus spreads to our community. In the meantime, we are continuing to clean and disinfect daily. We're putting an extra emphasis on disinfecting touch points in buildings to help reduce illness in staff and students. We will provide updates as more information becomes available.

**COVID-19** - People who get sick with COVID-19 develop mild to severe respiratory illness with symptoms including fever, cough and difficulty breathing. Illness can begin 2 to 14 days after exposure. The virus is spread from one person to another and is thought to occur mainly via respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. Most respiratory viruses are most contagious when the person is most symptomatic. Public health authorities are NOT recommending the use of masks or gloves, canceling mass gatherings, or classes. There is currently no vaccine to prevent COVID-19.

**Preventive Actions** - Influenza and other respiratory viruses are common at this time of the year. The CDC's current recommendations for limiting the spread of any type of respiratory virus, including COVID - 19, include the following everyday preventative measures.

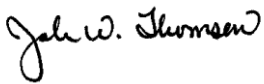
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands; germs spread this way.
- Cover your nose and mouth when you cough or sneeze with a tissue, throw the tissue in the garbage and then remember to wash your hands afterwards.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

- 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 with at least 60% alcohol.
- Stay home when you are sick.

All reports of COVID - 19 continue to be followed closely by the CDC, Wisconsin DHS, media, and the Whitefish Bay School District.

**Learn More** - If you are interested in learning more about COVID - 19 and/or Influenza, please click on the links listed below. Moreover, if you have any additional concerns about your child's health, please contact your child's health care provider.

Thank you,



Dr. John W. Thomsen  
Superintendent of Schools

Related Information LINKS below:

[What you need to know about coronavirus disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)

[2019-nCoV: What the public should do](#)

[STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS](#)

[CDC Flu](#)