



South Park School District
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South Park School District

March 9, 2020

South Park Families:

Each day, we are learning additional details about the coronavirus (COVID-19). In a follow-up to our communication included in the March 2, 2020 edition of the Eagle Eye E-Newsletter, we wanted, once again, to provide you with information about prevention and preparation, not to cause panic but to reassure you of the district's commitment to the health and well-being of our students, faculty, staff, and families.

District administrators and school nurses are in regular communication with the Allegheny County Health Department, and receive information almost daily from the Allegheny County Health Department and the Pennsylvania Department of Health. Regular meetings and webinars with local, county, and state health experts provide us with up-to-date developments about the virus. As in every cold and flu season, the South Park School District has implemented preventative measures including the thorough and frequent cleaning and disinfecting of touch surfaces, like desks, tables, doorknobs, and light switches. These measures are in line with recommendations from the Allegheny County Health Department, Pennsylvania Department of Health, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The district's cleaning supplies are well-stocked and meet all CDC requirements. Additionally, we have been in contact with our transportation provider, First Student, about the cleaning and sanitizing procedures it follows. The buses and vehicles used to transport South Park students to and from school are disinfected multiple times daily.

The Allegheny County Health Department has asked us to remind families of the following preventative measures:

- Wash your hands thoroughly and frequently for at least 20 seconds, especially after using the restroom, before eating, and after group activities. If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with 60% alcohol
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth
- When you cough or sneeze, use a tissue and discard it immediately or cough into your elbow and then wash your hands
- Please keep children who are sick at home until they are symptom-free for at least 24 hours
- If you plan to travel abroad, please check the CDC website before traveling



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We also would like to remind families of the guidance from the Allegheny County Health Department when deciding whether to send your child to school after an infectious illness. This guidance is to ensure the well-being of your child and all South Park students, faculty, and staff members.

- Children with a temperature above 100 degrees must be fever-free without the use of a fever-reducing medication for 24 hours before returning to school. While taking medications such as Tylenol or ibuprofen will bring down a fever, it doesn't necessarily mean the child is healthy enough to return to school
 - For instance, if a child goes home from school during the day on Tuesday with a temperature of above 100 degrees, the child cannot return to school on Wednesday.
- Children with the flu should not return to school until they are symptom-free for at least 24 hours
- Children with vomiting or diarrhea should not return to school until they are free of symptoms for 24 hours

If you have questions about sending your child to school after an infectious illness, we encourage you to contact one of our school nurses.

Should cases of the coronavirus arise in our community, we will follow the guidance and direction of public health officials. We continue to encourage you to seek additional information from local, state, and national public health agencies. Links to their websites are included below.

- [Allegheny County Health Department's information about the coronavirus](#)
- [Pennsylvania Department of Health's coronavirus information](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention information about the coronavirus](#)

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and know that we will provide additional information if and when it becomes necessary.

Sincerely,

Wayne P. Gdovic
Superintendent of Schools