



## Farmingdale Public School

February 27, 2020

Dear Parents:

In recent weeks, the coronavirus (COVID-19) has received increased attention in the media causing concern regarding exposure within the United States. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO) are continuously monitoring the virus and providing necessary guidance to both federal and state agencies, as appropriate. As of recent, activity within the United States is low, but it is still important to be as proactive as we can. As a district, we want to assure you that we are following all recommended guidelines as they become available from the New Jersey Department of Health and the New Jersey Board of Education as the safety and health of our students and staff is our number one priority. General flu activity within the state remains high, so we would like to share with you some recommendations from the CDC regarding routine preventive actions to help prevent the spread of any respiratory virus:

- **Get a flu shot.** It is never too late to get a flu shot, so speak with your provider if you or your child have not received one this season.
- **Stay home when you are sick.** If possible, stay home from work, school, and errands when you are sick. You will help prevent others from catching your illness. Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- **Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.** Germs spread easily this way.
- **Cover coughs and sneezes.** Use a tissue to cover coughs and sneezes, then dispose of the tissue. When a tissue is not available, cough or sneeze into your elbow.
- **Wash hands for 20 seconds.** Washing hands often under clean, running water can help prevent the spread of germs. If you cannot wash your hands, use alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60-95% alcohol. For more guidance see:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/when-how-handwashing.html>

- **Adhere to exclusion recommendations.** All students and staff must be fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medication before returning to school.
- **Clean and disinfect surfaces or objects.** The district follows standard procedures for routine cleaning and disinfecting. Our custodial staff works diligently to clean and disinfect all areas of the school daily and are in constant contact with Mrs. Kokolus to increase cleaning as the need arises based on illness trends. We ask that you partner with us and regularly clean and wash backpacks, jackets and lunchboxes to help prevent the spread of germs.
- **If you have traveled to any of the high activity countries in the last 14 days and are sick with fever, cough or difficulty breathing, seek medical care right away.** Call ahead before you go to the doctor or the emergency room and tell them of your travel so they can advise you of the appropriate course of action.

We remain in communication with the local and state health departments. Since this is an ongoing and evolving public health crisis, we will continue to monitor risk criteria with the support of the local health department.

For up-to-date information and guidance, please refer to the following trusted sources:

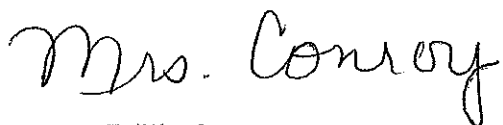
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

<https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml>

For general questions or concerns: call the NJ 24-Hour Public Hotline at 1-800-222-1222

For more specific questions about your child or family, please contact your healthcare provider.

In education,



Mrs. Edith Conroy

Superintendent



Mrs. Katy Kokolus

School Nurse