

Maryland's Largest School District

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Expanding Opportunity and Unleashing Potential

Dear Parents and Guardians:

MCPS is committed to the health and safety of our students. In the last 48 hours, we've heard from several communities seeking information about the [Coronavirus](#). At this time, there are no reports of Coronavirus in our community. The Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) has also informed us that to date, no cases have been confirmed in Maryland and there is no reason from a clinical standpoint to be alarmed.

DHHS and the Montgomery County Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security are monitoring the incidence of the Coronavirus in the U.S. Additionally, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is monitoring the situation closely in partnership with the World Health Organization. MCPS will continue to consult with DHHS and will provide updates if the situation changes.

As a best practice for overall health in cold and influenza season, the CDC recommends that individuals receive the influenza vaccination and engage in everyday, preventative measures to prevent the spread of germs and avoid illness, such as:

- Wash hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use alcohol-based hand sanitizers.
- Avoid touching eyes, mouth and nose with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with individuals who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick. The CDC recommends that individuals remain home for at least 24 hours after you no longer have a fever or signs of a fever (i.e., chills, feeling warm, flushed appearance).
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then immediately discard the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Take any anti-viral medication prescribed to you as instructed.

Sincerely,

Montgomery County Public Schools