

FEARLESS  THINKERS
SINCE 1885

March 4, 2020

Dear Yellow Springs Families & Staff,

We are aware of the concerns of our community, as well as the recent statements from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO), regarding the coronavirus (COVID-19). COVID-19 is a respiratory illness caused by a new virus, and we are learning more about it every day. Since there is currently no vaccine to protect against COVID-19, the best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to the virus. Stopping transmission of the virus through everyday practices is the best way to stay healthy.

As of this afternoon, there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Ohio.

Yellow Springs Schools will continue to follow CDC recommendations for prevention of any respiratory virus. Simple ways to protect yourself and your family include:

- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Do not share food, drinks or eating/drinking utensils.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Children (and adults) should stay home when sick. Students need to be fever-free for 24 hours before returning to school after any illness.
- Cough or sneeze into an elbow or use a tissue and place immediately in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

We have reinforced with our custodial team the importance of following our standard cleaning protocols by using virucide cleaner and sanitizer on frequently touched surfaces such as doorknobs, faucet handles, handrails, and other hard surfaces, as well as ensuring there are adequate supplies of soap in all restrooms. Additionally, on Friday, March 6, during the staff professional development day, district custodial staff will do a thorough cleaning of our buildings as a general precautionary measure.

Please click [here](#) to read information from the Ohio Department of Health regarding COVID-19. We will continue to closely monitor the situation with the Greene County and Ohio Departments of Health and follow their guidance and recommendations, as COVID-19 conditions are changing rapidly. More information on COVID-19 is also available on the CDC website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus>. Click [here](#) for an infographic from the Ohio Department of Health on COVID-19 prevention.

Please feel free to contact your child's building principal or nurse if you have any questions. Thank you for your continued support in keeping our students and staff safe.

Sincerely,



Dr. Terri L. Holden
Superintendent