



# CARROLL

## INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

2400 N. Carroll Ave. Southlake, TX 76092 817.949.7080 [www.southlakecarroll.edu](http://www.southlakecarroll.edu)

February 3, 2020

Dragon Families,

Cold and flu season is upon us, and CISD has already been working diligently to educate staff and students about simple ways to reduce the chance of infection and prevent the spread of influenza. We monitor school health clinic visits, keep track of flu-related absences and specifically encourage our families to keep children at home when they are sick or experiencing fever. Your child must be 24 hours free of fever without Tylenol or Advil and not throwing-up for 24 hours before they return to school. Antibiotics must be taken for 24 hours before returning to school. So far, the weekends and holiday breaks from school have helped curb the spread of flu significantly.

You've probably been hearing in the news about the coronavirus that originated in Wuhan, China or 2019-nCoV as the health department sometimes refers to it. We have had parents contacting us asking questions about our procedures and how CISD will handle those who have recently traveled internationally. CISD is providing the information below and a link to a fact sheet on our website to keep our families informed.

At this time, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the risk to the general public in the United States is considered to be "LOW." In fact, to date there are no confirmed coronavirus cases in Texas, and only six confirmed cases in the United States.

We want all of our staff and parents to know that Carroll ISD has trained, registered nurses at each campus with protocols in place to handle communicable illnesses common to school districts like influenza (flu), pertussis (whooping cough), strep throat, head lice and more. These same protocols would be used when monitoring for other public health concerns. Our CISD nursing staff has been working closely with the Tarrant County Health Department (TCHD) to learn more about coronavirus and what it means for public schools.

Patients with confirmed coronavirus or 2019-nCoV infection have experienced mild to severe respiratory illness with symptoms that include fever, cough, and shortness of breath. The symptoms may appear in 2-14 days. International travel to and from China does not automatically mean the individual has been exposed or that others are at risk.

If you traveled to China or outside the country in the last 14 days and feel sick with fever, cough or difficulty breathing, avoid contact with others and call ahead to tell your doctor about your recent travel and symptoms. For any potential staff or students who are symptomatic, our school nurses have screening procedures to isolate individuals with symptoms, find out about travel and dates of illness and report regularly to the TCHD. Any recommendations and/or restrictions for students or staff will be handled on a case by case basis after conferring with TCHD.

The TCHD says everyday preventive actions like those listed below are the best way to avoid the spread of respiratory viruses.

- Wash hands regularly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds;
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap is not available;
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, then throw the tissue in the trash;
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands;
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick;
- Stay home while you have a fever or experience illness;

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- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

To learn more about Carroll ISD's [Fever Policy](#), visit our [Health Services website](#).

Together we can stay informed and help prevent the spread of illness. If your child is experiencing flu-like symptoms or you are concerned about symptoms after international travel, please contact your doctor and your child's school nurse before sending your child to the doctor or school.

CISD Leadership Team

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