

Rockville Centre Union Free School District

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February 27, 2020

Dear Parents and/or Guardians,

This morning I attended a meeting with the Nassau County Commissioner of Health, Dr. Lawrence Eisenstein, where he reviewed guidelines for responding to the growing concerns about the Coronavirus (Covid-19). He emphasized that there are no confirmed cases in New York State. The actions taken recently by the County Health Department to have 83 people voluntarily isolated was done strictly for the purpose of prevention.

School Districts will be informed by the health department of any child who might be involved with a voluntary isolation, as well as any occurrence of the Coronavirus. The Commissioner indicated that at this time, there is no reason for us to change any of our home or school activities. He also indicated that like the flu and the common cold, the Coronavirus is a respiratory infection and we should continue to implement practices to promote a healthy environment and prevent the spread of viral infections.

The District has hand sanitizers throughout our buildings and soap in our bathrooms. Please encourage your children, as we will, to clean or wash their hands often and thoroughly. In the School District we will be working with our custodial staff to ensure that all surfaces regularly touched by our employees or children are sanitized on a daily basis. I have also listed below other recommendations that the Commissioner asked that we pass on to our staff and families.

- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, if available and if not cough or sneeze into your elbow.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

New York State has established a Q & A Coronavirus line, 888-364-3065, that you may use as a resource. If your child is exhibiting flu symptoms, such as a fever and a cough, we ask that you keep your child at home and visit your medical doctor.

In addition to the hotline, there are links to sites provided by the CDC that will provide additional information. I have listed them below:

<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/pdf/pandemic-resources/pandemic-fact-sheet-2017.pdf>
<https://www.cdc.gov/oralhealth/infectioncontrol/faqs/respiratory-hygiene.html>
https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/summary.html#anchor_1580064337

As more information becomes available we will continue to share it with you.

Sincerely,
William H. Johnson
Superintendent of Schools