

Dear Parent / Guardian:

The San Bernardino County Department of Public Health issued an update Jan. 28 confirming **no reported** cases of the novel coronavirus in San Bernardino County. Currently, there have been five confirmed cases of the virus in the United States including two in California—one in Los Angeles County and one in Orange County. Through social media, there has been some misinformation of the virus spreading in our region but this is incorrect. We kindly ask that anyone refrain from spreading false information regarding the virus and please discourage this action from your student.

While public health agencies are taking the novel coronavirus seriously and are carefully monitoring for the virus, health officials currently indicate there is no immediate threat to the general public and the risk of contracting the virus is low.

Common symptoms of novel coronavirus in an infected person include:

- Runny nose
- Headache
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Fever
- Shortness of breath and/or difficulty breathing

There are currently no vaccines available to protect against human coronavirus. As with any virus, especially during the flu season, health officials recommend the following preventive measures to protect your health and the health of others:

- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

If you or your student experience the flu or similar virus, you can help protect others by doing the following:

- Stay home from school or work while sick and avoid close contact with others.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, then throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands.
- Clean and disinfect objects and surfaces.

Most people with common human coronavirus will recover on their own. If you are concerned about symptoms, contact your healthcare provider.