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# VAN VLECK INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

March 3, 2020

Dear Van Vleck ISD Staff and Families:

We value the health and well-being of our students, staff and families. We work throughout the year to promote healthy schools. Transparency & Safety is always our priority.

As the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) share more information about COVID-19, or the coronavirus, we want you to know that we are regularly in contact with local, state, and federal health officials. We are striving to find the most reliable resources of information regarding COVID-19, especially for the school setting.

From fighting the flu to monitoring other health concerns, we follow TEA and the Texas Department of State Health Services guidance and CDC recommendations. Our health staff works alongside operations staff, student & community services and district leaders to plan and respond appropriately. We are sharing this information so you are aware. There are no specific threats to VVISD related to COVID-19 at this time. There are no positive COVID-19 cases in Matagorda County.

There is currently no vaccine to prevent COVID-19. The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. However, as a reminder, CDC always recommends everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases, similar to the flu, including:

- Do not drop off your sick child at school. Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing and sneezing, throw the tissue away, and then wash your hands.
- Follow the CDC guidelines on using a facemask:
  - CDC does not recommend that people who are well wear a facemask to protect themselves from respiratory diseases, including COVID-19.
  - ❖ Facemasks should be used by people who show symptoms of COVID-19 to help prevent the spread of the disease to others. The use of facemasks is also crucial for health workers and people who are taking care of someone in close settings (at home or in a health care facility.
- Avoid close contact with anyone with cold or flu-like symptoms
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, & mouth with unwashed hands
- Clean & disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces

As global and local monitoring continues, we will continue to keep you updated. The actions listed above will show to be very effective to prevent the spread of illness in our schools & community if utilized correctly.

Sincerely,

John R. O'Brien