



NEW CASTLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Office Of The Superintendent
420 Fern Street
New Castle, Pennsylvania 16101
724 656-4757
www.ncasd.com

Debra A. DeBlasio
Superintendent of Schools

March 12, 2020

Dear Parent and Guardians,

We want to share an important message about the coronavirus (COVID-19). As a District, our first priority is always the health and safety of our students and staff. In light of the global COVID-19 outbreak, we want to assure you that the New Castle Area School District is closely monitoring the situation and receiving updated information from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), and the Pennsylvania Department of Health. We will continue to closely monitor this situation and follow all recommendations/guidelines.

Recently, we have taken additional prevention measures and added increased sanitization steps to our normal cleaning routines in school buildings and on transportation units. Such measures have included the following:

- Daily cleaning of areas and equipment frequently touched by students and staff has been increased.
- School nurses have spoken to our students and staff to share important prevention practices for staying healthy.
- Lysol wipes and sanitizers have been distributed to all classrooms and large group areas such as cafeterias, auditoriums, etc.
- Directions for proper handwashing have been posted throughout the District.
- Administration has temporarily suspended all school field trips.
- Administration has limited outside guest speakers/visitors.
- Administration is monitoring information from the PIAA related to athletic events.

We are asking parents to help in the effort to minimize the spread of this type of virus by having your family members practice these recommendations by the CDC:

- Wash hands frequently; if soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- When coughing or sneezing, cover your nose and mouth with a tissue or by using your sleeve or elbow.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, mouth and face.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

Furthermore, we ask that if any member of your household (adult or child) has traveled to any one of the [travel-restricted countries](#) in the past 14 days, that you immediately contact your building principal.

At this time, the District has not received any official notification that there will be any school closings; however, we encourage families to have plans in place for the supervision of your child if closing the school should become necessary.

Our proactive efforts as a school district and community will continue as our buildings and buses operate on a regular schedule. We will remain vigilant and promise to be as informative as possible as we receive guidance from authorities.

Please continue to visit our website for up to date information that may be forthcoming. Additional information can be found at <https://www.health.pa.gov> or call 1(877) PA HEALTH.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Debra A. DeBlasio". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "D" at the beginning.

Debra A. DeBlasio

Superintendent

New Castle Area School District