

March 9, 2020

Dear Rahway Public Schools Community,

The safety and wellness of our school community is our number one priority. With the recently elevated discussion regarding the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in the news, I want you to know that the district continues to closely monitor the situation and follow guidance from the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) and the New Jersey Department of Education.

To help keep our school community healthy below are preventative measures we are taking:

- 1. We are enhancing <u>daily</u> cleaning and sanitizing at all of our schools. Our custodians already have the needed disinfectants and tools, as well as the training to effectively disinfect our schools.
- 2. Faculty were updated by our school nurses in meetings this past week, including reinforcement of general precautions that can be taken to prevent the spread of infections.
- 3. Students will be meeting with district staff to reinforce age-appropriate precautions they can take to limit the spread of infection, specifically about proper hand washing.

In a recent meeting with district administrators, Mr. Dennis Green, Rahway City Health Official, endorsed the districts preventative actions. The Rahway School District and Rahway City Health Department are coordinating efforts to keep all of Rahway healthy.

As with any respiratory illness, we urge our students and staff to continue to follow the public health recommendations for being 24-hours fever-free before returning to school. Moreover we remind everyone that individuals can help prevent the spread of respiratory illnesses by taking the following steps:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after coughing or sneezing.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze with your sleeve or a tissue.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects at home.
- Stay at home if you are sick, especially with a fever.

Additional information and guidance can be found here: https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml

We expect to receive periodic updates from Health Departments and will continue to keep you informed. Thank you for your partnership in helping to keep our school community safe and healthy.

Dr. Patricia Camp

Superintendent of Schools