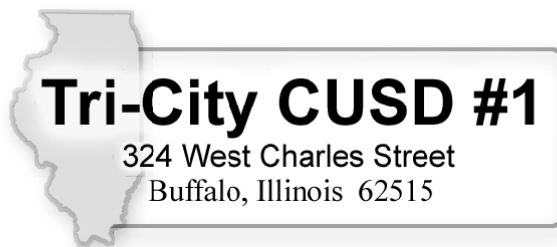




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March 11, 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Legal Guardian(s):

Like so many of you, we have spent the last several days and weeks learning about the coronavirus disease 19 (COVID-19), which has spread throughout China and to 71 other countries and territories, including the United States.

While there are no reports of COVID-19 in Sangamon County, our school district is preparing for the possibility that the disease could make its way to our area. The district already has many protocols in place due to the cold and flu season, which we will continue to follow, including periodic deep cleaning of high-touch areas of our building.

Our teachers are also encouraging good hygiene practices and stress their importance to our students. Good handwashing and cough/sneeze etiquette remain some of the most effective ways to stop the spread of communicable illness. We encourage everyone to practice necessary precautions to aid in the prevention of illness, including colds and flu:

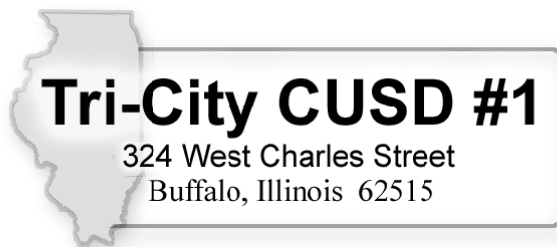
1. Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
2. If possible, stay home from work, school, and errands when you are sick.
3. Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing.
4. Washing your hands often and for at least 20 seconds will help protect you from germs. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.
5. Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.
6. Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at home, work or school.

With spring break coming up, many of our families may have travel plans. If this applies to you, we strongly encourage you to follow these guidelines:

- Consult the [U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](https://www.cdc.gov) (CDC) information for travelers who currently recommends avoiding all nonessential travel to China and South Korea. The CDC has recommended enhanced precautions for travel to Italy, Iran, and Japan.
- Closely monitor [Travel.state.gov](https://travel.state.gov) to review current travel restrictions from the U.S. Department of State during this public health emergency. Anyone returning to the U.S. from mainland China is required to self-isolate for 14 days; this includes people with or without symptoms. These recommendations may be extended to travel from other countries with ongoing transmission of COVID-19.
- Regularly check with your commercial airline carrier for changes to outbound and inbound flights.
- Consult with your health care provider or your school nurse before and upon return from travel outside of the U.S., particularly if you plan to visit an area with confirmed COVID-19 cases.



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Please know that traveling into areas with confirmed COVID-19 cases could pose a risk of potentially being quarantined for a minimum of 14 days.

Additional, updated information can be found at following links:

- [CDC Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
- [IDPH Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
- [WHO Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
- [Sangamon County Department of Public Health](#)
- Sangamon County Department of Public Health COVID-19 Phone Line (217) 321-2606 (Monday –Friday, 8 am to 4:30 pm)

If you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call your healthcare provider or our school nurse, Nurse Kathy at (217) 364-4035, extension 117. As I receive updates, I will continue to communicate and post information on the T-C main web page.

Educationally yours,

Jill Larson
Superintendent