

NORTH ADAMS COMMUNITY SCHOOLS



from:

MR. BRENT LEHMAN

|| SUPERINTENDENT ||

A MESSAGE TO PARENTS & GUARDIANS

March 4, 2020

Parents and Guardians,

By now, you may be familiar with public health and media reports of the Coronavirus. We have been closely monitoring the information and guidance from public health officials and we have been in communication with our local health department regarding safety measures and planning.

While there are no confirmed cases of the Coronavirus in our area, we wish to assure you that student, staff and our school community's safety is our number one priority. To remain proactive, as a district, we already have a team, including our school nurses, that is actively evaluating our existing health and safety plans and pandemic procedures in effort to contain or avoid the spread of illness in our district and community. We will continue to monitor the information as it is released from the Indiana State Department of Health and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and communicate any relevant information as it exists.

As with all illnesses, precautionary measures such as staying home when you are sick helps stop the spread of illness to others. In light of preventing the transmission of any illness (the flu, a common cold, etc.), below are some steps that you can take to protect yourself and those around you:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. (If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.)
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

This information is being shared with all students, families, staff and community members as a reminder of the importance of healthy hygiene practices to avoid the spread of illness, including viruses; as well as confirmation to inform you that we, as a district, are alert to the virus, are evaluating our plans for preparedness and communicating important information as a response to safety throughout the health advisory.

For additional information about the Coronavirus, symptoms and prevention, you may visit the following places for resources:

The Indiana State Department of Health: <https://www.in.gov/isdh/28470.htm>

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC): <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

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Please also keep a copy of the following guidelines shared by the Indiana Department of Education on illness. You may refer to this chart on “How Sick Is Too Sick?” if your child becomes sick with a cold, virus or illness at any time.

This information sheet is designed to be used as general guidance.
If you have a medical question, please consult your physician.

Symptom	Send to School	Keep at Home
Fever	During the past 24 hours, the student's temperature has been below 100 degrees and no fever reducing medication has been taken.	During the past 24 hours, the student's temperature has been more than 100 degrees.
Diarrhea	During the past 24 hours, no more than one watery stool has occurred.	During the past 24 hours, more than one watery stool has occurred.
Vomiting	During the past 24 hours, no vomiting has occurred.	During the past 24 hours, vomiting has occurred.
Eyes	Eyes may be itchy, but are not red, crusty, or draining.	Eyes are pink, draining, crusty, itching, painful, sensitive to light, or student has vision changes.
Cough/Runny Nose	Slight cough or runny nose, but no fever, and the student is able to cover cough, blow nose, and wash hands.	Symptoms are severe enough that the student is unable to learn. The student has a fever, or is unable to cover cough, blow nose, or wash hands.
Rash	Rash is not draining or spreading. The student does not have a fever, and symptoms of itching are not severe enough to impede learning.	Rash is bothersome and distracting. The student has a fever or severe itching, or rash is spreading or draining.
Asthma	Symptoms are well controlled and the student knows when to contact a school adult for assistance or the student has an asthma action plan on file at the school and is following the plan.	Symptoms are not well controlled. The student is not able to recognize when he/she needs assistance, and no asthma action plan is on file at the school.

If you have questions regarding this information, you may contact the North Adams Community Schools Administrative Office at 260-724-7146, Monday through Friday, 7:30 AM - 3:30 PM.

Partnering in Education,

Brent Lehman
Superintendent