



March 9, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Considering the recent information about the coronavirus, or COVID-19, that has dominated the news in recent weeks, we are writing to share with you what General McLane District is doing to protect the safety and health of all students and staff.

1. We are working with our local and state PA Department of Health offices to monitor important updates from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). If the coronavirus appears in our area, we will be taking direction from the PA Department of Health.
2. Our custodians have implemented a more robust cleaning protocol for frequently touched surfaces, common areas and classrooms.
3. Since the most effective way to prevent the spread of germs is practicing good hygiene, including washing hands, and covering coughs and sneezes. Staff are reviewing and encouraging proper technique and frequent use of these practices with the students.
4. We ask that any student or staff who is experiencing flu-like or respiratory symptoms stay home and seek medical advice from their family doctor.
5. Our school nurses will assess students for symptoms and contact parents if a student needs to go home or be seen by the doctor.
6. A link to the CDC coronavirus homepage and additional information is available on our Health Services - Nurses webpage.

Keep in mind that we are currently still in the middle of flu season, and this is more likely to affect students than the coronavirus. Please be alert for any signs of illness in your child, keep them home from school, and contact your family doctor.

Flu symptoms

Coronavirus

Sudden onset

Fever (temp over 100.3)

Fever, chills

Cough

Headache, body aches

Trouble breathing

Sore throat, runny or stuffy nose

Shortness of breath

Although we are taking this situation seriously, our goal is to create a sense of calm for our students. We want to do this by using common sense, demonstrating preparedness and using credible and reliable information. Please take the time to discuss the importance of good cough/sneeze hygiene and handwashing practices with your children. And stay home if you are sick. In the meantime, we will continue to monitor the situation and keep you posted of any further developments.