



Miami-Dade County Public Schools

giving our students the world

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February 28, 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) remains committed to promoting the overall health and physical well-being of its students and staff. Over the past several weeks, we have been carefully monitoring media reports and heeding the guidance provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Florida Department of Health regarding novel coronavirus COVID-19.

The most recent information provided by the CDC indicates that the virus is not currently spreading in the United States, and there have been no reported cases of the disease in Florida. While the vast majority of individuals residing in the United States have a low risk of exposure, M-DCPS is taking the potential threat very seriously. To this end, we have instructed school-based personnel to use established procedures to closely monitor and report students with flu like symptoms, and to spend additional time disinfecting schools, focusing particularly on desks, computer labs, walls, furniture, doorknobs/handles, handrails, and water fountains.

All parents/guardians are encouraged to assist us in minimizing the risk of exposure to flu-like symptoms by:

- Advising individuals in your household to frequently wash their hands with soap and water for a minimum of 20 seconds. When soap and water are not available, alcohol-based hand rub solutions can be utilized as an alternative.
- Helping young children wash their hands well.
- Refraining from sending sick children to school.
- Covering your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then disposing of the tissue in the trash, and immediately washing your hands with soap and water for a minimum of 20 seconds. When soap and water are not available alcohol-based hand rub solutions can be utilized as an alternative.
- Avoiding close contact with anyone exhibiting cold or flu-like symptoms.

You may also access a variety of resources regarding coronavirus COVID-19 that have been made available by M-DCPS at <http://www.dadeschools.net/>. For additional information, please visit <https://www.cdc.gov/> or <http://www.floridahealth.gov/>.

Sincerely,

Alberto M. Carvalho
Superintendent of Schools

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