Dear DCSD Staff,

As you know, there has been increasing attention and media coverage regarding the coronavirus (specifically the COVID-19 strain of the virus). This new strain of coronavirus is believed to spread mainly via respiratory droplets produced when an infected person sneezes or coughs.

**MOST IMPORTANTLY, there are currently no confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) in Iowa and Iowa is currently considered a low-risk state.**

As a district, we are operating in a state of preparedness and are in regular communication with the Iowa Department of Public Health, as well as Dubuque County and City of Dubuque Health officials to be sure we are informed on the latest developments.

Moving forward we will continue to partner with and follow the guidance of these agencies. The most up-to-date state information about the coronavirus can be found on the [Iowa Department of Public Health Coronavirus Webpage](https://idph.iowa.gov/Emerging-Health-Issues/Novel-Coronavirus) and on the [Centers for Disease Control Coronavirus Webpage](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html).

It is also important to note the following:

* The district uses hospital-grade disinfectants to disinfect commonly touched surfaces in all district buildings.
* As is always the case, the best preventative measures are those normally associated with minimizing the spread of common illnesses, including:
* Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. (Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.)
* 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 mouth with your upper arm or tissue when coughing or sneezing.
* **It is important for** **staff as well as students to stay home if they are ill**, including any of the following symptoms:
	+ Fever at or above 100.4
	+ Vomiting
	+ Diarrhea
	+ **NOTE:** Do not return to school or work until being free of any of these symptoms **without the use of medication** for 24 hours.

**LATER TODAY, WE WILL SEND A DISTRICT-WIDE COMMUNICATION TO FAMILIES ABOUT THIS TOPIC. PLEASE DO NOT SEND A SPECIFIC MESSAGE TO YOUR SCHOOL AS WE WANT THE MESSAGE TO BE CONSISTENT TO ALL FAMILIES AND STAFF.**

Again, at this time, we are working as a district to be proactive and preventative. We will provide additional information as it becomes available and appreciate your ongoing assistance in promoting good preventative measures in our schools.

Thanks,

Allie White
Lead Nurse

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Dear Families,

As you know, there has been increasing attention and media coverage regarding the coronavirus (specifically the COVID-19 strain of the virus). This new strain of coronavirus is believed to spread mainly via respiratory droplets produced when an infected person sneezes or coughs.

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* 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 mouth with your upper arm or tissue when coughing or sneezing.
* **It is important for** **students as well as staff to stay home if they are ill**, including any of the following symptoms:
	+ Fever at or above 100.4
	+ Vomiting
	+ Diarrhea
	+ **NOTE:** Do not return to school or work until being free of any of these symptoms **without the use of medication** for 24 hours.

Again, at this time, we are working as a district to be proactive and preventative. We will provide additional information as it becomes available and appreciate your ongoing assistance in promoting good preventative measures in our schools.

Thanks,

Allie White
Lead Nurse