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## HARMONY TOWNSHIP SCHOOL

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March 3, 2020

Dear Harmony Township Elementary School District Community,

We have been monitoring the alerts from the New Jersey Department of Education, the New Jersey Department of Health, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention associated with the novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). Guidance from these organizations advise that the best way to prevent infection is to remain informed about the virus and avoid being exposed to this virus.

We are asking all Harmony Township families and staff to take the same precautions they would during any flu season, including the following:

- Washing hands frequently with soap and hot water for at least 20 seconds
- Covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue or into a sleeve (cough into your elbow)
- Avoiding touching of the eyes, nose and mouth
- Staying home from school and work when sick
- Adhering to exclusion recommendations: fever free for 24 hours

This is an emerging, rapidly evolving public health situation. We will continue to monitor risk criteria in support with our local and state health departments. Our school nurse and administrators are working closely with the Warren County Health Department and with the New Jersey Department of Education and will follow any guidelines and recommendations as they are released.

As with each flu season, our district continues to follow enhanced procedures for routine cleaning and disinfecting. This includes disinfecting all door handles at regular intervals throughout the day, disinfecting classrooms on a routine basis with single-use cleaning pads to prevent the spread of germs from room to room, and disinfecting desks and table tops after use.

Parents should notify the school nurse prior to having their child return to school if their family has recently traveled to a country impacted by COVID-19.

For additional information about COVID-19, please visit the following websites:

New Jersey Department of Health:

<https://www.nj.gov/health/news/2020/approved/20200128a.shtml>  
[https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/2019nCoV\\_k12schools.pdf](https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/2019nCoV_k12schools.pdf)

Centers for Disease Control:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/2019-ncov-factsheet.pdf>  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/summary.html>