



# PORT WASHINGTON Union Free School District

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February 27, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We fully appreciate the concern parents, students, and community members have regarding the Coronavirus. It is dominating the 24/7 news cycle and reports of its recent spread to the European countries of Spain and Italy have only fueled this worry we all share.

We want to assure the Port Washington community that the District remains in close contact with county, state, and federal health officials regarding our health policies and what we should be doing proactively, both in the short term and in regards to any potential change in the current Coronavirus situation nationally, statewide and on Long Island. It is important to note that Nassau County Health Department officials continue to assure us that, to date, there are no confirmed Coronavirus cases in our region.

In accordance with CDC recommendations, and as an additional precautionary measure, we are asking parents and families who have recently traveled to mainland China, other Asian countries, and European countries such as Spain and Italy, to please contact your child's building principal or central administration.

Best health practices for general flu prevention should be followed during this period of time, including:

- wash hands regularly
- cough or sneeze into your sleeve or use a tissue, not directly into your hands
- avoid touching your face
- avoid close contact with others who are sick or showing signs of illness
- stay home if you are feeling sick, and call your physician's office and let them know your symptoms

For more information regarding health protocols and Coronavirus, community members are encouraged to visit the United States Center for Disease Control website: <http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>. The latest regional updates can be found on the New York State Department of Health website: <https://www.health.ny.gov/>.

Should you have any questions about the District's health protocols and procedures, please contact my office at 516.767.5005.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael J. Hynes".

Michael J. Hynes, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

ZE/MJH/da