



Friday, March 6, 2020

Dear Boquet Valley CSD Parents/Guardians/Families,

This letter is intended to provide you with information regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and share how Boquet Valley Central School District is monitoring the spread of this newly emerging respiratory illness.

Providing a safe school environment for students, staff and employees is of utmost importance. We are presently monitoring the situation in conjunction with local experts such as Champlain Valley Educational Services (CVES) and the Essex County Public Health Department. Additionally, we strongly adhere to guidance from the NYS Education Department, NYS Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Each day, we are gathering updated information from the aforementioned professional sources.

At school, we are encouraging preventative measures such as increased hand washing, and additional cleaning of high-traffic surfaces and areas throughout our school. I urge parents and guardians to consider the following: **Students should stay home when they are sick.**

Preventing the spread of any illness is critical this time of year. We continue to encourage students, staff and families to follow the New York State Department of Health's recommendations of utilizing the following preventative measures:

- **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.
- **Wash** your hands with soap and water before eating, after eating and after using the bathroom.
- **Avoid** touching your eyes, nose, and mouth especially with unwashed hands.
- **Avoid** close contact with people who are sick.
- **Cover** your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or sneezing. If you use a tissue, throw it in the trash immediately after use.
- **Routinely clean** and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- **Follow** the CDC recommendations pertaining to travel abroad.

The next page of this letter features links to online resources to learn more about the coronavirus and measures you can take to help prevent the spread of this illness. I appreciate your patience and collaboration during this developing situation; we will be monitoring all the relevant agencies on a regular basis and providing new information to you as soon as appropriate.

Sincerely,

Joshua R. Meyer
Superintendent of School

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION SOURCES

New York State Department of Health's Coronavirus webpage:
<https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/coronavirus/>

Centers for Disease Control (CDC) webpage for Coronavirus:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

NYS Center for School Health
<https://www.schoolhealthny.com/>

Essex County Department of Health
<https://www.co.essex.ny.us/Health/>

World Health Organization
<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

Talking to Kids About the Coronavirus
https://childmind.org/article/talking-to-kids-about-the-coronavirus/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_content=more%20advice%20from%20our%20experts%20here&utm_campaign=Weekly-03-03-20