



SUFFOLK PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Dr. John B. Gordon III, Superintendent

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Dear Parents/Guardians:

With the recent heightened media of the Coronavirus, we want you to know that Suffolk Public Schools continues to keep the health and well-being of our students and staff as our highest priority. While concern is growing over the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19), we also want to remind families that Virginia is still experiencing widespread levels of influenza activity. Currently, there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Virginia.

Prevention and protection strategies for both are listed below:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick. Likewise, people who are sick should stay home from work or school and avoid other people until they are symptom free.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth. Germs spread this way.
- Frequent handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Alternatively, if soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer - rubbing all surfaces of the hands until dry.
- Cover your cough/sneeze with a tissue, throw the tissue away, and wash your hands. If a tissue is not available, cough into your elbow.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces. Allow the surface to remain wet for the amount of time listed on the product and air dry before touching it again.
- If an outbreak of flu or another illness occurs, follow public health advice. This may include information about social distancing and other measures.

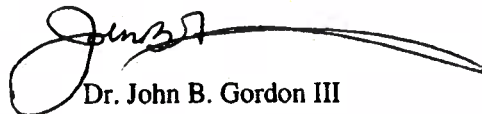
Suffolk Public Schools, along with our neighboring districts, have collaborated to take proactive measures to stop the spread of illness, and ensure that all kids are safe. Leadership teams are proactively reviewing and updating our SPS response plans. We are maintaining close contact with the Suffolk Health Department and are receiving updates as they come available. Our cleaning and disinfecting efforts within the buildings increased early in the cold and flu season and will continue.

The following are valuable resources for current information regarding both influenza and COVID-19:

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention www.cdc.gov
- The Virginia Department of Health www.vdh.virginia.gov

We hope you will work with Suffolk Public Schools in educating our community about the importance of preparation. Feel free to share this information with your family, friends, and neighbors.

Sincerely,



Dr. John B. Gordon III
Superintendent

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