Hílltop Schools

March 11, 2020

To all Hilltop Parents/Guardians:

Coronavirus & Influenza-like Illnesses

As concerns about the Coronavirus (COVID-19) spread, we would like to remind you and your family to practice **The Three C's** to help slow the spread of any viral infection:

- Clean. Wash hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hand cleaners are also effective. Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.
- Cover. Cover you mouth and cough/sneeze into a tissue, throw it in the trash, and wash your hands; or you can cough/sneeze into your sleeve/elbow.
- **Contain.** If your student has symptoms of the flu, please keep him or her home and contact the school. Try to avoid close contact with sick people. If you are sick, do not go out except to seek medical care. If you or your child experience trouble breathing, seek help immediately.

As a reminder with any viral illness, please keep children home when they are sick. Students, staff and family members who are ill should stay home to heal and prevent the spread of illness to others.

We have been and will continue to work closely with the Williams County Health Department, the Ohio Department of Health, and the Centers for Disease Control to stay informed and to communicate any change that may impact our school community. Our custodians have been and will continue to sanitize buses, classrooms, door handles, light switches, drinking fountains, and other surfaces that are frequently touched.

Fortunately, our attendance rate for students and staff has been excellent and absences due to flulike illnesses have been minimal. However, since Governor DeWine recently declared a State of Emergency to minimize the spread of the COVID-19, we all need to be prepared for the possibility of a mandatory school closure. The district will continue to communicate with health departments and will inform you as soon as possible if our school district must close.

In order to stay current with information on this rapidly changing situation, you may find the following link helpful: <u>http://www.hilltop.k12.oh.us/SchoolNurse.aspx</u>

Sincerely,

Jim Wyse

Jim Wyse Superintendent