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SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE BOROUGH OF BRENTWOOD

March 9, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

This letter is to provide an update as to how the District has been monitoring the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) illness. As of the morning of March 9, 2020, there are six presumed positive cases of COVID-19 on the eastern side of the state which are linked to international travel. As of this morning, there are no confirmed cases in Allegheny County.

Weekly meetings are being held with school district personnel, medical professionals, the Allegheny Intermediate Unit (AIU), the Center for Disease Control (CDC), and the Allegheny Department of Health. At this time, the guidance provided **does not** include the quarantining of students or staff for travel **within** the United States.

The District is taking additional steps to deter the spread of COVID-19 and other infectious illnesses. These additional steps include switching to a new cleaning product approved to kill COVID-19 and other infectious illnesses, monitoring daily student and staff absences due to illness, and additional cleaning of commonly touched equipment and furniture.

We are asking parents to help in the effort to minimize the spread illness by having your family follow the recommendations from the CDC, which are;

- Wash hands frequently and for 20 seconds with soap and warm water to destroy any germs.
- When coughing or sneezing, cover your nose and mouth with a tissue or by using your sleeve or elbow;
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth;
- Stay home when sick and don't return to school for **at least 24 hours** of being fever-free without the use of medication.

We also encourage parents/guardians to report to the school nurse if their child has a confirmed case of the flu. This will help us track viral infections and to better target our sanitizing efforts.

If we do experience COVID-19 cases, we will take our direction from the CDC, Pennsylvania Department of Health and the Allegheny County Health Department.

Guidance from CDC:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/prevention-treatment.html

Cases in the United States: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-in-us.html

2019-nCoV and Children: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/children-faq.html

Guidance from ACHD (Also references CDC):

https://www.alleghenycounty.us/Health-Department/Resources/Data-and-Reporting/Infectious-Disease-Epidemiology/2019-Novel-Coronavirus.aspx

*New Resource from The National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN)

https://www.nctsn.org/sites/default/files/resources/fact-sheet/outbreak_factsheet_1.pdf

We will continue to monitor the situation and will send updates and additional information as needed. In everything we do, the safety of our students and staff is our top concern.

Sincerely,

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Amy M Burch, D.Ed. Superintendent of the Brentwood Borough School District