



www.ucasd.org

## Union City Area School District

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Dear UCASD Families:

As you know, the world is closely monitoring the spread of the Coronavirus. As with any potential wide-scale health concerns, our school district relies heavily on the PA State and Erie County Department of Health for guidance. If the Coronavirus should appear in our area, we will be taking direction from these authorities. Below are several links to resources as well as information regarding the Coronavirus:

<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx>

Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH) [Website](#)

[Coronavirus Disease Information](#)

[Pandemic Basics, Strategies for Schools Managing a Pandemic](#)

[Coronavirus Updates and Information](#)

[Pandemic Information](#)

U.S. Department of Labor (OSHA) [Website](#)

Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency [Website](#)

Ready PA: [Website](#)

[PA Emergency Preparedness Guide](#)

As you may be aware, we are currently in the middle of the flu season. According to medical authorities, this is much more likely to affect students than the Coronavirus. The good news is that reported cases of the flu in our schools remain low at this time. Nevertheless, we are working with our custodial staff and reviewing cleaning protocols for frequently touched surfaces, common areas, and classrooms. Surfaces are disinfected daily here at school.

As always, parents and guardians always have the responsibility for making decisions that are in the best interest of the health and safety of their own children. This includes decisions about keeping a student home if they are sick.

Symptoms of the flu include sudden onset of:

Fever

Chills

Headache

Body Aches

Please be alert for any signs of illness in your children and seek medical attention for the aforementioned symptoms, as well as for complaints of:

Severe sore throat  
Vomiting or diarrhea lasting for more than a few days  
Cough lasting more than 2 weeks  
Severe earache  
Shortness of breath  
Fever lasting more than 1 day

Also, please encourage your child to cough or sneeze into their shoulder or a tissue, not their hand. Finally, remember the best way to prevent illness is frequent hand washing and the use of hand sanitizer.

If your child has a fever greater or equal to 100 degrees, we ask that you keep your child home. If your child is fever free for 24 hours **WITHOUT** the use of fever reducing medication, it is safe for your child to return to school.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's school nurse should you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,

Matthew W. Bennett  
Superintendent of Schools