



East Lansing
Public Schools

Dori Leyko, Superintendent * dori.leyko@elps.us
501 Burcham Drive, East Lansing, MI 48823 * p 517 33 7424 * f 517-333-7470 * elps.us

Dear East Lansing Public Schools staff and families,

This letter is to inform you that we are continuing to gather information and monitor district response to the potential of a local coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services has indicated the health risk to the general public of Michigan remains low. We continue to be in communication with local, state and federal agencies and will follow their expert recommendations to ensure the safety of everyone in our school and local community.

As communicated in last week's letter, the district continues to intensify cleaning procedures throughout the buildings to prevent and limit the spread of the virus. Hand sanitizers are available at all buildings, and disinfectant wipes are being provided.

Please know that we acknowledge and recognize that individuals respond in many different ways to this situation, and district administrators and staff will support any and all decisions made by families in regards to the attendance of their children during this time. Please just communicate your plans to your school office. The district will not move forward with truancy procedures should you choose to keep your child(ren) home. In fact, we encourage you to keep your children at home if they are sick. As concerned as we are about the safety of our students and staff, we also have a responsibility to the greater local community and those individuals who may be at higher risk of severe complications with exposure to the virus – we all must do our part in following the guidance and best practices in reducing the potential spread to others.

I've also received questions regarding the district's plans for remote instruction should we be directed to shut down for a period of time. The district is not preparing for online instruction at this time – my concerns lie with the ability of ALL students to effectively access the curriculum. These concerns include factors related to technology and/or internet accessibility as well as content accessibility for English learners, students with IEPs and other students who rely on staff support to access curriculum in school. These opportunity gaps widen when students are not in school to learn. Our district is not alone in having these concerns, and should a school shutdown occur, we will take guidance from the Michigan Department of Education to determine our best course of action.

For additional information and guidance regarding measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19, please use this link to access the Ingham ISD webpage: <https://www.inghamisd.org/thelatest/public-information-and-reports/corona-virus-information/> or to the Michigan Association of Superintendents and Administrators site at <http://qomasa.org/covid-19/>.

If you have additional questions or concerns, please feel free to email me at dori.leyko@elps.us. I will share additional relevant information as it becomes available.

Thank you,

Dori Leyko, Superintendent
East Lansing Public Schools