

February 26, 2020

Dear Family Members,

In recent weeks, there has been information reported across the country about a respiratory virus, Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). While there are no cases in Harrington Park, I encourage parents to visit the Centers for Disease Control link for the most up to date information about the virus, signs and symptoms, and how it can best be treated:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Several key points worth highlighting are:

- People with a mild illness caused by this virus typically only need to rest and stay hydrated.
- People most at risk, such young children with a history of breathing problems, should seek medical attention if their symptoms increase.
- This virus is similar to other viruses such as the common cold.
- Proper hygiene is essential in preventing the spread of the virus.

Parents should be on alert for signs of viral illness. We request that parents take a conservative approach and keep their child home if they begin to show symptoms.

Mild to severe symptoms of COVID-19 may include:

- Runny Nose
- Sneezing
- Cough
- Body and Muscle aches
- Fever
- Difficulty breathing

As there is no vaccine for COVID-19, there are things that can be done to stop the spread of airborne and surface transfer of the infection, such as:

- Washing hands often with soap and water
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces, such as toys and doorknobs

While we have no confirmed cases in Harrington Park, the school takes preventative measures to prevent the spread of pathogens and we constantly review our practices to ensure they meet the current needs of the district.

I will continue to provide information regarding COVID-19 as the need arises. Thank you for your support and cooperation in our pursuit in maintaining a healthy school environment for the children of HP. Should you have any questions, feel free to contact me if I can be of any further help or assistance.

Respectfully yours,

Dr. Adam D. Fried
Superintendent