

HIGH POINT REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

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Good Afternoon:

March 6, 2020

We know there has been an increase in questions regarding schools and the Coronavirus-19 (COVID-19) that has gained global, national, and state attention. I wanted to provide you with information so you know High Point is prepared and monitoring the situation.

We continue to be diligent in our cleaning practices throughout the school and we are following the recommendations of the Sussex County Health Department (SCDOH), NJ Department of Health (NJDOH) and the Center for Disease Control (CDC):

<https://www.sussex.nj.us/documents/health/coronavirus/20200304-coronavirus-update.pdf>

<https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/after-travel-precautions.html>

The most important guidance that we are receiving from all of the organizations is to follow good wellness practices and these preventative methods just as we would with cold and flu season.

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

What preventive measures should a school take to help reduce the spread of respiratory illness including COVID-19 and the flu? NJDOH recommends that schools and childcare settings increase education on respiratory hygiene. Staff and children (as developmentally appropriate) should all be taught and asked to follow these steps that prevent the transmission of respiratory infections:

- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue or into your sleeve, not your hands.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Wash hands often for at least 20 seconds, especially after coughing or sneezing. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- Stay home if you are sick, especially with a fever.
- Avoid people who are sick.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects.

Additional preventive measures include:

- Continue to monitor students and staff who exhibit respiratory symptoms.
- Adhere to exclusion recommendations from public health. For acute respiratory illness; fever free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication. Doctor's notes for return do not supersede public health recommendations.
- Separate sick students and staff from others until they can be picked up to go home.
- Provide adequate supplies, including clean and functional handwashing stations, soap, paper towels, and alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Encourage routine surface cleaning through education, policy, and the provision of supplies.
- Get a flu shot – it's not too late to be protected!

As the situation may continue to evolve, High Point will be prepared with a school health-related closure preparedness plan to continue instruction if deemed appropriate and necessary by the NJDOH and NJDOE.

Please let me know if you have any questions, we will continue to update parents, students, and staff if we receive further information from the NJDOE or NJDOH.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jonathan L. Tallamy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Mr. Jonathan L. Tallamy
Principal, HPRHS