

March 9, 2020

Dear Lexington District One Family:

As you know, the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) is investigating cases of the COVID-19 novel coronavirus in South Carolina and announced today that our state has seven presumptive positive cases.

At this point, there are no confirmed cases in Lexington County.

Our district, however, continues to monitor the situation closely and plan to reduce the risk to faculty, staff, students and visitors.

We met with our schools' head custodians and maintenance staff on Wednesday, March 4. We reviewed the need to clean daily all commonly touched surfaces with an Environmental Protection Agency registered disinfectant.

We lean heavily on the CDC and DHEC for guidance. In line with CDC guidance, DHEC does not recommend limiting travel within the United States, closing schools, or canceling public events at this time. Our district continues to make individual travel decisions based on their guidance. Parents always have the right to make the best decision for their children.

DHEC also coordinates with school nurses to monitor absentee rates in schools, as well as to report illness in the community, to determine if or when they recommend closures.

We are committed to providing accurate information to you and have created a webpage specifically for this purpose. This site includes links to information from the CDC and other agencies/organizations that you might find helpful.
<https://www.lexington1.net/COVID-19>

We know, however, that as this goes on, we will begin to hear more rumors and inaccurate information. Quite frankly, we need your help.

It is more important now than ever that you and your children do not pass on things you hear, whether through social media or messaging apps.

Remember, too, to keep your children at home when they run any fever higher than 100 degrees Fahrenheit before you give them Tylenol, Motrin or other appropriate fever-reducing medication. Once your child's fever breaks and your child no longer has a fever (without Tylenol or another product in his/her system), please keep your child home for another 24 hours. We also remind staff that these guidelines apply to you, too.

We remind you again today that we can all protect our students, staff, and the broader community by using commonsense, everyday actions that protect people from any type of respiratory virus such as remembering to:

- wash our hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- avoid touching our eyes, nose, or mouth.
- stay home when sick.
- cough or sneeze into our elbow or use a tissue and put it in the trash immediately.
- clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- avoid contact with sick people.
- get a flu shot.

Please consult your physician if you have any concerns regarding your child's or your situation.

Thank you for helping us keep our students and staff healthy.

Dr. Greg Little
Superintendent