



CLARK-SHAWNEE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
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BRIAN KUHN
SUPERINTENDENT

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TOM FAULKNER
TREASURER

March 11, 2020

Dear Clark-Shawnee Families,

With the four confirmed cases of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) in Cuyahoga and Stark counties, we wanted to update you about our preparations and preventative steps at Clark-Shawnee Schools.

The district is in close communication with the Clark County Combined Health District and following the guidance and expertise of the CCCHD, Ohio Department of Health, Ohio Department of Education, and others. At this time, there are no recommendations to close K-12 schools in Clark County.

Here's what we know right now:

- Governor Mike DeWine has issued a State of Emergency in Ohio in response to the confirmed cases of COVID-19 in northeastern Ohio.
- Colleges, including local universities and colleges, are cancelling face-to-face classes in favor of virtual learning.
- The Governor's Office and Ohio Department of Health recommendations include not allowing spectators for indoor athletic competitions and cancelling or rescheduling non-essential school-sponsored travel.

Here's what we are doing at Clark-Shawnee to prevent the spread of illness and keep our schools healthy and safe for all students and staff:

- We have postponed our Shawnee Middle/High School Community Open House scheduled for tomorrow, Thursday, March 12, 2020. We are following guidance from the Governor and the CCCHD and ODH about large gatherings and will continue to evaluate upcoming events to make the best decisions for the safety and health of our community.
- We have added additional sanitizing to classrooms, high-traffic areas of the building, and buses, on the advice of the Clark County Combined Health District.
- We are encouraging our students to practice good handwashing techniques and hygiene practices to prevent the spread of illness.
- We have reviewed pandemic emergency response information and are in contact with the Clark County Combined Health District and Clark County Emergency Management Agency.
- Our nursing team has created a response plan in case anyone in the building presents with coronavirus symptoms.
- Students enrolled in College Credit Plus courses should contact the university or college they attend for information about CCP classes.
- The district has postponed the Washington, D.C. trip planned for March 16-19, 2020. More information is being sent to 8th grade families. We are monitoring the planned Shawnee High School Music Department trip to Chicago (April 3-5, 2020). Families of students attending the Chicago trip will be updated before Spring Break.

Here's what we can all do to prevent the spread of illness:

- Please stay home if you are sick. If you have a fever, seek appropriate medical attention and stay home until you are fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medication such as Tylenol or Advil. Please keep in mind that administering Tylenol or Advil does not make you non-contagious; it simply suppresses the fever.
- Wash your hands regularly, especially after using the restroom and before preparing or consuming food. Using soap and hot water, wash for about 20 seconds. Be sure to also wash fingertips and between fingers.
- Avoid coughing or sneezing into your hands or in the air. Always try to cough or sneeze into a tissue, and then throw the tissue away. If you don't have a tissue, cough/sneeze into your arm.
- As much as you can, avoid touching your eyes, mouth and nose.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Remind your children not to share personal items like drinks, food or unwashed utensils.
- At this time there are no recommendations to close all K-12 schools in Clark County or Ohio. We will continue to rely on the recommendations and advice of the Clark County Combined Health District, the Ohio Department of Health, and the Centers for Disease Control. Please take the necessary steps to prepare for childcare and other considerations for your family in case a closure is recommended.

Thank you for your support and partnership as we continue to work through this complex and quickly developing situation. We will continue to rely on the expertise of the Clark County Combined Health District and other agencies to make sure we are implementing proactive and preventative measures and following the best health and safety recommendations. We will continue to keep you updated as we learn more.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian Kuhn". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "B".

Brian Kuhn
Superintendent
Clark-Shawnee Local