



Parents, Grandparents and Caregivers,

We understand and share your concerns about the spread of COVID-19 (the Coronavirus). Like you, we are closely monitoring updates about this situation from government, healthcare and public health experts, and we are also in frequent contact with the Ross County Health Department.

Keeping you and our students safe, and assuring our schools are clean, disinfected and healthy, remains a firm priority for our district as we continue to learn more about COVID-19.

While there are no reported cases of the virus in Ross County, we have put many additional measures in place to elevate our cleaning and sanitation protocols. Our maintenance and custodial staff are following strict cleaning guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to ensure all high-touch areas and surfaces throughout our buildings receive additional attention during this time. Our transportation department is taking measures to clean and sanitize the buses on a regular basis, as well.

It is our intent to continue to operate with these precautionary measures in place, but as you know, this is a quickly changing situation. If needed, our middle and high school staff can implement Google Classroom to continue learning at home on a temporary basis. For our elementary students, we will use Class Dojo, an educational technology communication app and website we have adopted for situations like this.

We will work with, and remain in close contact with the Ross County Health Department, the Educational Service Center of Central Ohio and the Ohio Department of Education to make informed decisions that focus on the well-being of our students, families and staff.

We will use our robocall system, social media, email and our website to provide you with regular updates on this situation and any decisions we make regarding school closures or remote schooling.

In the meantime, we strongly encourage you to prepare as well for the possibility of future school closure, review your ability to arrange for in-home learning and identify any childcare arrangements that may be necessary.

As always, please practice appropriate health and safety measures in your own homes and teach your children about proper handwashing and overall habits to minimize the spread

of illness. If your child is sick, please do **not** send them to school. We can work with you on attendance issues as long as you keep us informed of your student's status.

We are working tirelessly to monitor this situation while ensuring your child experiences minimal disruption in the classroom. Once again, at this time we have no reason to change how our schools are operating. We will communicate additional information in the event of any changes.

Sincerely,

Deborah Swinehart
Superintendent