



March 2, 2020  
Subject: Coronavirus

Dear Hinckley-Big Rock CUSD #429 Students, Staff, and Families,

This letter is not intended to raise the anxiety of anyone concerning the coronavirus, rather to let you know that we are in communication with our local DeKalb County Health Department, the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), and other state organizations concerning the health risks and appropriate actions that we should be taking as a school organization at this time. The health and safety of our students is our top priority, so we want to share information that the IDPH has published for schools throughout the state.

The good news at this time is that the health risk to the general public from coronavirus remains low. Currently, the IDPH recommends schools hold classes and events as usual and follow routine cleaning and disinfecting procedures; no special measures are necessary. We have communicated this internally with our custodial staff and are ensuring that we stay vigilant in our cleaning efforts, especially during this time of the year with increased risks of additional illness.

The IDPH also recommends the best way to protect against coronavirus is by taking the same everyday precautions against getting sick in general. These include:

- Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoiding close contact with people who are sick.
- Staying home when you are sick.
- Covering your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched objects and surfaces.

To see the complete recommendations to schools from IDPH, please [click here](#). We will continue to closely monitor recommendations regarding coronavirus and will update you as soon as there are any significant changes in recommendations for schools. We ask that you have conversations with your student(s) about the precautions that they should be taking. Thank you for your support in helping to keep our school community healthy.

Sincerely,

Dr. Travis L. McGuire  
Superintendent