



March 3, 2020

Re: COVID-19

Dear BEN Family,

The purpose of the present letter is to provide an update in light of the CDC's February 25th announcement that schools should begin preparing in the event of an outbreak of coronavirus, or COVID-19, in the United States. The CDC also stated that, *although "the potential public health threat posed by COVID-19 is high, both globally and to the United States ... for the general American public, who are unlikely to be exposed to this virus at this time, the immediate health risk from COVID-19 is considered low."*

Currently, there are no cases of Coronavirus/COVID-19 reported in New Jersey.

As you know, this situation is evolving. We know that proactivity and proper planning will allow us to be successful and fully support our students, teachers, staff, and families more appropriately. This communication is merely to be proactive, while assuring our families that we are working to put forth plans that will continue to support student learning with minimal disruptions.

According to the CDC there is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. However, as a reminder, CDC always recommends everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases, including:

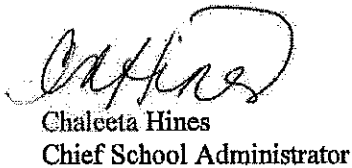
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.

If you are interested in more information about the coronavirus disease/COVID-19, please visit the CDC at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/summary.html>

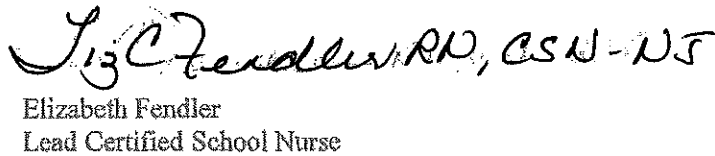
As school leaders, our paramount concern is making sure our school community is safe, nurtured and supported. We thank you for the trust you place in us and we will keep you informed of any new updates as we receive them.



Dominique Lee  
Founder and CEO



Chalceeta Hines  
Chief School Administrator



Elizabeth Fendler, RN, CSN-NS  
Lead Certified School Nurse