



# Livingston

## PUBLIC SCHOOLS

*Dr. Matthew J. Block*  
Superintendent of Schools

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Dear Livingston Public Schools Families:

We are aware that, this past Friday afternoon, the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services declared a public health emergency due to the spread of the Coronavirus, and provided new procedures for U.S. residents traveling back home from affected locations. Based on this very recent declaration, it is possible that the guidelines and protocols for schools (as shared in my recent message this past Thursday) may change as well. At this point we have not received any modified instructions from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH), or our local health department.

Since this is a developing situation, based on Friday's announcement from the Department of Health and Human Services, we are recommending that all families with a child who (within the past two weeks) has traveled to an area of the world highly impacted by the Coronavirus, please contact their child's principal and/or school nurse prior to sending their child back to school.

Again, if your child has recently returned from the type of travel indicated above, please contact your principal or school nurse at least one day in advance of the date you plan to send your child back to school. We will work with individual families and health professionals to determine appropriate timelines and processes for reentry to school for children who have traveled to impacted areas. Thank you to the families who are already working with us in this way. Cooperation and a sense of partnership continues to be a vital tool for navigating situations like this.

It is important to remember that, as of today, there remain no confirmed cases of Coronavirus in New Jersey, and there are still very few cases nationwide. On Friday, the Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease stated, "We still have a low risk to the American public, but we want to keep it at a low risk." Along those same lines, it is important not to overreact, but it is essential that we carefully work together to manage the potential spread of illness in our schools. We are monitoring this situation on an ongoing basis. Our goal continues to be a healthy environment in all of our schools.

Thank you again for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

*Matthew Block, Ed.D.*  
Superintendent of Schools