



District Office
407 Fremont Road
East Syracuse, NY 13057
Fax: 315-434-3020
www.esmschools.org

Dr. Donna J. DeSiato
Superintendent

Phone: 315-434-3012
E-mail: ddesiato@esmschools.org

March 12, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

COVID-19 (coronavirus) continues to dominate the news. As of today, there are several confirmed cases in New York State, however, there are not any confirmed cases in Onondaga County as of this date.

East Syracuse Minoa Central School District continues to monitor COVID-19 and work with the Onondaga Health Department and District Medical Director to determine protocols in the event it spreads to our community. As with any major health issue, we will continue to seek guidance and make determinations as they relate to:

- Communicating good health habits
- Sanitizing frequently touched objects and surfaces
- Students/families returning to ESM Central School District from impacted countries/states
- Upcoming school trips/field trips
- How to continue instruction if schools need to close for a period of time

According to the CDC, the most important thing people can do to reduce infection is to practice good hand washing. Wash hands often with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds. If clean water and soap are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. By practicing good hand washing and sanitizing, we can help stop the spread of germs.

The COVID-19 (coronavirus) has understandably created anxiety for many watching it unfold around the world. Our students are watching too. For more information about talking to children about COVID-19, please refer to this parent resource from the National Association of School Psychologists and the National Association of School Nurses.

[https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-climate-safety-and-crisis/health-crisis-resources/talking-to-children-about-covid-19-\(coronavirus\)-a-parent-resource](https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-climate-safety-and-crisis/health-crisis-resources/talking-to-children-about-covid-19-(coronavirus)-a-parent-resource)
<https://www.nasn.org/blogs/nasn-profile/2020/02/26/coronavirus-19-message-to-school-nurses>

Parents can also stay up to date on the most recent COVID-19 developments through a myriad of local, state and federal health agencies websites.

<http://www.ongov.net/health/coronavirus.html>
<https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/coronavirus/>
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>

Thank you for our continued support as we continue to monitor the impact of the coronavirus and do our best to keep us all safe and healthy amid this global challenge.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Donna J. DeSiato'.

Dr. Donna J. DeSiato
Superintendent