Dear Parents and Guardians:

As you may know, New York State recently confirmed its first case of the novel coronavirus 19 (2019-n-CoV) in New York City. A second case has been confirmed in Westchester County. This letter is to inform you of the District’s response to this emerging health concern.

The East Syracuse Minoa Central School District will continue to follow recommendations provided by the Centers for Disease Control, the World Health Organization and the New York State Department of Health. All three organizations are monitoring the situation closely and will provide us with updates as the situation warrants.

In addition, Onondaga-Cortland-Madison BOCES and area superintendents have been working together on a safety plan to address the situation as it continues to evolve.

The District currently has extensive cleaning measures in place to combat the spread of cold and flu-like viruses. These measures have been quite effective in preventing the spread of illness outbreaks in our buildings and on our buses, and we will continue to review and follow these procedures in the months ahead.

As a reminder, we are still in the midst of our regular cold and flu season, and it is important that we continue to follow recommendations to minimize the spread of all respiratory viruses, including 2019-n-CoV. Please make sure you share the following reminders from the NYS Department of Health with your children and family members:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or sneezing. If you use a tissue, throw it in the trash.
- Routinely clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Thank you for your continued support of our School District.

Sincerely,

Dr. Donna J. DeSiato
Superintendent