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Dr. Edwin M. Quezada
Superintendent of Schools

February 28, 2020

Dear Yonkers Public Schools Learning Community,

The recent increase in information about the Novel Coronavirus (also called CoVid-19) from our elected officials, the federal Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the New York State and Westchester County Health Departments has raised questions in our community. While there are no confirmed cases of Coronavirus in the area at this time, we must be prepared.

Regarding health and safety issues, school districts operate under specific guidance from the State Departments of Health and Education, which have recently issued Coronavirus guidance for schools. Yonkers works closely with and implements procedures and protocols of the Westchester County Department of Health. Additionally, we collaborate with city officials and relevant agencies. When it comes to public health, none of us works in isolation.

Yonkers Public Schools' nurses are trained and prepared regarding the Coronavirus. The custodial staffs have and will continue to provide flu season cleaning and disinfecting procedures in schools. Our Central Office administrative team continuously reviews emergency contingency plans.

In addition, we urge everyone to practice general flu prevention measures:

- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue or sleeve
- Wash your hands regularly
- Avoid touching your face
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Get your flu shot – it's never too late
- Stay home if you are feeling sick

Please note that public schools cannot share information about individual students or staff with the school community, and we cannot impose additional restrictions beyond those of government.

Be assured that we will keep our school community informed. Refer to the District's website for information from the State and County Health Departments. The Westchester County Health Department has a Coronavirus Hotline, 1-888-364-3065.

As a final reminder, please do not send your child to school with a fever. If you have any questions, contact your school nurse or our Student Health and Wellness Department at 376-8226.

Sincerely,

Dr. Edwin M. Quezada

C: President Rev. Steve Lopez, Vice President Ramos-Meier and Trustees of the Board of Education