March 4, 2020

Dear Yonkers Public Schools Learning Community,

Today’s press conference by New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo initiated a Westchester County response to a positive Novel Coronavirus (also called CoVid-19) exposure in New Rochelle. While there are no confirmed cases of Coronavirus in our schools at this time, we must be prepared.

Based on the directives from the New York State and Westchester County Health Departments and the State Education Department, the Yonkers Public Schools is proceeding with the following:

- Our school nurses are trained and prepared to recognize potential flu or Coronavirus symptoms, and take actions in accordance with Health Department protocols. The District’s full-time doctor monitors all schools.
- Self-reported information from our students, families and staff about personal potential exposure outside of our schools and district offices are fully reviewed by the District’s medical professionals as well as the New York State and Westchester County Health Departments.
- Every day the custodial staffs have and will continue to provide flu season cleaning and disinfecting procedures in schools. They clean and wipe hard surfaces (door handles, faucets, railings, drinking fountains, desks, etc.) frequently using the Oxivir TB wipes being provided.
- We continuously revise our emergency contingency plans to meet the needs of our students and staff.
- Provide timely communications to our students, families and staff.

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
✓ Do not send your child to school with a fever.

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.

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.

If you have any questions, contact your school nurse or our Student Health and Wellness Department at 376-8226.

Sincerely,

Dr. Edwin M. Quezada
Superintendent of Schools

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

yonkerspublicschools.org