



Clay County Schools

Coronavirus COVID-19 Action Plan



Clay County Schools plan for dealing with Coronavirus (COVID-19), in conjunction with the Clay County Health Department, should it reach our community will be as follows:

Information

- In a combined effort to preserve student health and wellness, Clay County Schools will be working closely with the Clay County Health Department to inform and educate our school system about the Coronavirus (COVID-19).
- There are several different types of coronaviruses, some of which have been around for years. These are referred to as the common coronaviruses and usually cause symptoms similar to the common cold. Many of us have had common coronaviruses in the past and assumed we had the common cold, treated it as such, and recovered in a week or two.
- The novel coronavirus is a new coronavirus that has not been previously identified. The virus causing coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), is not the same as the coronaviruses that commonly circulate among humans and cause mild illness, like the common cold.
- The Coronavirus that started in China in December is referred to as the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19).
- The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person
 - Between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet).
 - Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.
 - It may be possible that a person can get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or possibly their eyes, but this is not thought to be the main way the virus spreads.
- Symptoms include: fever, cough, and shortness of breath.
- Call your doctor if you develop symptoms, and have been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19 or have recently traveled from an area with widespread or ongoing community spread of COVID-19.
- Additional information: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Precautions

- Clay County Schools will use the same precautions that we have used for flu and other virus protection. Regular cleaning and disinfecting of schools, buses, restrooms, water fountains and other frequently touched surfaces within the schools.
- Promote thorough handwashing for at least 20 seconds before meals, after using the restrooms and whenever hands are visibly dirty.
- Educating students and staff to avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth.
- Encourage students and staff to cover cough or sneeze with tissue paper, then throw the tissue in the trash and thoroughly wash hands immediately. If tissue paper is not available, cough into the inside of the elbow.
- Hand sanitizer, with 60%-90% alcohol, may be used only when soap and water is not available.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick with flu-like symptoms. Those who display these symptoms should go home and follow health officials recommendations.

Action

- If a student or school employee is diagnosed with COVID-19 they are considered to be contagious and must follow health officials recommendations. The suspected case should be immediately reported to the school nurse or the Clay County Health Department. The diagnosis will be confirmed with the Clay County Health Department. COVID-19 is an immediately reportable disease.
- If there is a positive diagnosis, parents will need to inform the school. Parents will also have to provide documentation when the student is cleared to return. Parents/guardians may contact the schools for instructions for make-up assignments. Schools may also be contacted through Live Grades.
- School administrators will work with local health officials to make decisions on dismissal and/or closures. These decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis based on the most up-to-date information about COVID-19. In the case of a school dismissal/closure, all extra-curricular activities will be cancelled.
- Reimagined Time (Snow Packet Days) and/or Bank Time will be utilized in school closure situations if available.
- This plan is subject to change based on the latest information from health officials
- Clay County Schools Nurses, Jennifer Moore or Alicia Johnson, may be contacted at (304) 587-2445 or the Clay County Board of Education at (304) 587-4266.