

Harmony Grove



Public Schools



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04 March 2020

Dear Parent,

We are in close coordination with the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) and the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) to monitor any outbreak of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) in Arkansas.

The Arkansas Department of Health is currently monitoring travelers who have returned within the last 14 days from countries with sustained community transmission of the Coronavirus. As of February 28, the affected countries are China, South Korea, Italy, Iran, and Japan. Travelers from affected countries are advised to stay at home and monitor for symptoms until 14 days have passed from their departure from that country, while limiting interaction with others. Once 14 days have passed without any symptoms of illness, the Centers for Disease Control recommends these travelers can be allowed to return to school and public activities.

Harmony Grove School District will continue to take precautions to prevent the spread of viruses including the flu, common cold, and the Coronavirus, which include:

- Routinely cleaning and disinfecting the school
- Encouraging staff and students to wash their hands frequently with soap and water
- If your child is out for the flu, upon return to school you must provide the school with a note from the physician or nurse practitioner that diagnosed them.
- The note must state that your child was positive for the flu and the date they were diagnosed.
- Due to the incubation period and length of time that a person can be contagious with the flu as well as other flu-like illnesses, your child must remain out of school for 5-7 days and be symptom free for 24 hours before returning after 5-7 days.

- Even when feeling better, your child can still be contagious with the flu for up to 5-7 days from the start of symptoms.
- When your child returns to school, they must be brought back to school by a parent or parent designee and be cleared through the school nurse's office before being allowed to return to class or ride the school bus.
- They may not ride the bus to school upon returning after being out with the flu until they are cleared through the school nurse's office.
- If your child is not cleared by the school nurse for whatever reason once they return to school, they will have to return home until they are cleared.

You can also help prevent the spread of viruses by encouraging your student to:

- Stay home when they are sick
- Frequently wash their hands with soap and water
- Avoid touching their eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
- Cover their mouth when coughing or sneezing

Student wellness is a high priority at Harmony Grove School District, and we truly appreciate your help to keep our students healthy. Every child's safety is of the utmost importance. We are taking extra precautions and being proactive in prevention of the flu, as well as other illnesses that have flu-like symptoms. We feel as a whole that this is the best course of action to take in order for your child and every child to be safe at school. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call the school nurse's office at 870-574-0193.

Sincerely,



Dr. Albert Snow, Superintendent
Harmony Grove School District