

Maries R-I Schools

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Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are writing to provide you with an update about the coronavirus and the district's efforts to ensure the health and safety of all students in our buildings. On March 5, 2020, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued an update in which they stated that, despite the coronavirus being detected within the U.S., there are no confirmed cases in Missouri and the risk to the general American public remains low.

The Maries County R-1 School District is working closely with the Phelps County and Maries County Health Departments as well as other agencies to monitor the situation and develop a coordinated and comprehensive public health plan to ensure we are prepared if cases arise in our community. Maries R-1 will be prepared to implement public health recommendations as required. Updated information will be shared with the community and posted on our [school district website](#) as it becomes available.

As a best practice for overall health in cold and influenza season, the CDC recommends that individuals receive the influenza vaccination and engage in everyday, preventative measures to prevent the spread of germs and avoid illness, such as:

- Wash hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use alcohol-based hand sanitizer (60% alcohol).
- Avoid touching eyes, mouth and nose with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with individuals who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick. The CDC recommends that individuals remain home for at least 24 hours after you no longer have a fever (100 degrees or higher) or signs of a fever (i.e., chills, feeling warm, flushed appearance).
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then immediately discard the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Take any anti-viral medication prescribed to you as instructed.

Additional information for the U.S. and Missouri is available on the CDC website.

- [Missouri DHSS -- Coronavirus](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention -- Coronavirus](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention -- Influenza \(Flu\)](#)

Sincerely,
Maries R-1 School District

Home of the Eagles!