



February 27, 2020

Dear Prairie Crossing Families and Staff,

In response to the increased spotlight on the COVID-19 Coronavirus, we here at PCCS want to reassure you that we are monitoring this situation closely and are committed to keeping you updated as we receive information from our federal and local partners in health.

Coronaviruses usually cause mild to moderate upper-respiratory illness, like the common cold. Symptoms may include fever, cough, or shortness of breath. If you or your child develops symptoms after travel to mainland China or after exposure to someone known to be infected with COVID-19, please stay home and call your doctor for evaluation.

As these symptoms are very similar to influenza, please do not assume that your illness is COVID-19 without proper follow-up.

Currently, the [Lake County Department of Health](#) states that the immediate risk to the public remains low. Lake County residents, students, visitors and workers **DO NOT** need to change their daily behavior and the need for masks or gloves is unnecessary at this point.

We continue to strongly promote these tips to reduce your risk of an infection caused by any virus:

- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. If no tissue is available, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve or elbow, not your hands.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid contact with people who are sick.
- If you are sick, stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects that may contain germs.

In the event that COVID-19 is detected in our school or local community, the school will follow recommendations from public health officials. At this time, no special sanitizing processes beyond routine cleaning are necessary or recommended to slow the spread of respiratory illness. We will review our procedures as necessary and develop alternative plans if there is a change to normal day-to-day operations at PCCS.

Thank you for all that you do to help ensure the well-being and safety of everyone here at PCCS.

Sincerely,
Prairie Crossing Charter School

Shanna Coyle BSN RN
PCCS Nurse

Geoff Deigan
Executive Director

Please feel free to keep abreast of this information alongside using these links:

- <http://www.lakecountyl.gov/4377/Coronavirus-Disease-2019-COVID-19>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- <http://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/diseases-and-conditions/diseases-a-z-list/coronavirus>

