



Dear Hooks ISD Family,

An outbreak of COVID-19 has caused an outbreak of respiratory illness. I want to assure you that our school district is keeping track of this situation through proven and trustworthy sources: our local health department, the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Health officials are recommending local communities and schools should take the same steps to protect against coronavirus as we take to prevent the spread of everyday illnesses like the common cold or the flu:

- 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 touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- **Stay home when you are sick.**
- Cover your mouth and nose with the inside of your elbow when you cough or sneeze.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
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The 2019 novel coronavirus is believed to be spread through the air when an infected person coughs or sneezes, much in the way the flu and other respiratory viruses are spread. Symptoms can be fever, cough, or difficulty breathing.

I want to assure you we are working to ensure the cleanliness of our facility. Our teachers, school nurses, and staff are working carefully to encourage these simple and effective habits of frequent hand washing, covering every cough or sneeze, and cleaning classroom tables/surfaces frequently. In those times that we are seeing a heavier concentration of the cold/flu in a given area, we are also having the building maintenance staff use a disinfectant bomb on the area. This bomb is great in killing germs in a 6,000 square foot area. This is important not just to help prevent the spread of coronavirus, but to help prevent the spread of other infections that can lead to student illness and absences.

Thank you for your support of our district, our schools, our students and our teachers and staff.

Sincerely,

*Keith Minter*

Keith Minter  
Superintendent