



District Office
500 Sunset Drive, Suite #1
Jordan, Minnesota 55352
952-492-6200 main | 952-492-4445 fax

MATTHEW HELGERSON
Superintendent of Schools
mhelgerson@isd717.org

– DISTRICT WEBSITE POST ONLY –

February 26, 2020

We understand staff, families, and students may have questions and concerns about the novel (new) coronavirus disease – now called COVID-19. It is important for the Jordan Public Schools community to know that we are in communication with the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) about the situation and we are preparing for the possibility that an outbreak could become a local concern.

The situation surrounding the outbreak is rapidly evolving and the information or recommendations are changing as new information becomes available. MDH has provided us with important information and recommendations, including:

- At this time, the risk of becoming sick with COVID-19 is low, including for people in Minnesota schools.
- We are in cold and flu season. COVID-19 symptoms are similar to these more common infections, it is far more likely that anyone in Minnesota with respiratory symptoms is suffering from a cold or flu.
- MDH recommends that people stay home when sick, cover their cough (cough into the crook of your elbow or upper sleeve, not your hands), and practice good hand hygiene. These recommendations are especially important during cold and flu season.
- MDH is not recommending that events or extracurricular activities be canceled.
- MDH staff will contact individuals who came to Minnesota after travel to China. MDH will determine if those individuals will have some restrictions on their movement for a period of 14 days from the time they left the area. This could include being asked to stay home from work, school and other settings.
- Schools do not need to assess anyone who recently traveled or make determinations about who should be allowed to come to work or school. This is the responsibility of MDH.
- MDH has encouraged schools to support students and staff who may be asked by public health officials to stay home for 14 days by allowing for leniency in absenteeism from classes and extracurricular activities.
- Anyone planning to travel to China should review travel recommendations posted on CDC's Travel Health Notices and keep an eye on the news for updates on this evolving situation.

OUR MISSION

Inspire a caring community to ignite learning, innovation, and success for all!

Sincerely,

Matthew Helgerson
Superintendent

Laura Menden
Licensed School Nurse

Nicole Langheim
Licensed School Nurse