



Little Cypress-Mauriceville

Consolidated Independent School District

6586 FM 1130 ♦ Orange, Texas 77632 ♦ Phone 409-883-2232 ♦ Fax 409-883-3509

March 6, 2020

Dear Little Cypress-Mauriceville Family:

An outbreak of respiratory illness caused by Novel Coronavirus, first identified in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China, has caused an outbreak of respiratory illness and the United States has confirmed a handful of Coronavirus cases related to travel. I want to assure you that LCM Administrators are keeping track of this situation through local, state and national health officials daily. The Orange County Health Department, Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) **all believe the risk to our school community is low at this time.**

Updated information from the CDC on Coronavirus in the United States can be found at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>. The most recent information about Coronavirus in Texas may be found at: <https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus/>.

Much is being learned about this newly emerged virus. Based on the current information, 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. You and your children should be fever-free for 24 hours, without taking a fever-reducing medication, before returning to school or work.**
- **Cover** your mouth and nose with a tissue when you **cough** or **sneeze**. Put your used tissue in a waste basket. If you don't have a tissue, **cough** or **sneeze** into your upper sleeve, not your hands.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

The new 2019 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. At this time, persons considered at risk are those who have travelled to China, or those in close contact with persons infected with the Coronavirus.

While a new type of illness may be scary, we can protect our students, teachers, and the broader community by using simple everyday actions that protect people from other types of respiratory viruses. Our teachers, school nurses, and staff are working carefully to encourage these simple and effective habits of frequent handwashing, covering every cough or sneeze, and cleaning classroom tables/surfaces frequently. 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.

For additional information on preventing coronavirus and other infectious viruses, go to [More Info](#).

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

Sincerely,

Stacey Brister
Superintendent of Schools