



Lyncourt Union Free School District

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www.lyncourtschool.org

**"Great Expectations for
Achievement, Respect, and Care"**

James J. Austin
Superintendent

Kimberly A. Davis
Principal

Cathryn L. Marchese
Business Administrator

March 13, 2020

Lyncourt community:

While the Lyncourt UFSD does not have a confirmed case of novel coronavirus, COVID-19, within its school community, district officials are monitoring information from local, state and federal officials about the newly-emerged virus.

If the district becomes aware that one of our students or staff members is diagnosed with COVID-19, we will notify staff and parents/guardians using the School Messenger phone system. *At this time, experts have not recommended that the district cancel or reschedule classes.*

For now, the most important thing you can do to protect yourself and your children is to follow the standard preventive practices for influenza. There are a number of steps that students, staff and community members can take to minimize the spread of all respiratory illnesses, including COVID-19, according to the New York State Department of Health:

- 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. Heavily soiled hands should be washed.
- 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 cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

It is important to note that exposure to COVID-19 can occur from any person-to-person contact and is not limited to a particular race or ethnicity. More information about COVID-19 is available from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>. The state Department of Health also has information available on its website, including a coronavirus hotline: <https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/coronavirus/>.

We are preparing to meet the needs of our students and staff in the event the virus affects our community. As we move forward, a school closure event is becoming more apparent by the day. In the event that our school is required to close for an extended period of time, our website and social media sites (Facebook, Twitter, School Messenger) will be the most immediate source of information for staff and parents. Please understand, currently, there are more questions than we have answers for. The information and recommendations can change by the hour.

We will continue to diligently clean the building and have added extra evening staff to enhance our cleaning efforts. We have also installed twelve hand sanitizer stations throughout the building and we are reinforcing proper handwashing techniques with all students and staff.

Sincerely,

James J. Austin
Superintendent
JA/boc