

March 12, 2020

Good afternoon,

California is responding to the spread of a respiratory illness caused by a novel coronavirus (COVID-19) first identified in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China. Cases of COVID-19 are also being reported internationally and in the United States. California is actively working with the White House, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), local governments, health facilities, and health care providers across the state to prepare and protect Californians from COVID-19.

Nevada County Superintendent of Schools Office in collaboration with the Governor's office, California Department of Education and Nevada County Public Health Department is providing guidance on what is currently known about the transmission of COVID-19. Measures are already underway to slow the spread of respiratory infectious diseases, including COVID-19. The safety and well-being of our students, families, and staff continues to be our top priority. School sites continue to maintain heightened cleaning, disinfecting, and health protocols. School sites are taking all possible steps to mitigate the local effects of the virus, but also maintain as much instructional continuity as possible.

Students, families, and staff are encouraged to take every day preventative actions:

- Stay home when sick
  - Remain at home until fever has been gone for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medicines.
  - Seek immediate medical care if symptoms become more severe
- Use "respiratory etiquette."
  - Cover cough with a tissue or sleeve
- Wash hands frequently.
- Enhance cleaning consistent with Center for Disease Control guidance.
- Community social distancing is encouraged – avoid large group gatherings.

At the time of this correspondence, there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Nevada County. We recommend that students continue to attend school utilizing recently instituted social distancing and hygiene protocols. A decision to close a campus or further curtail activities will be executed with the input and guidance from local public health officials. Please keep in mind that issues and conditions associated with the virus change rapidly. NCSOS will continue to communicate information and possible actions as soon as possible. **This is an excellent time for families to consider home preparedness.**

- IF there is a change to the route of delivery for classroom instruction, i.e. on-line learning, independent study, etc., remember to:
  - Stay up-to-date with your school site communications
  - Have school essentials available in the home (paper, pencil, computer, etc.)
  - Have a quiet learning space available in the home
  - **Make plans for childcare if you work outside of the home**

The health and safety of every student, staff and community member in Nevada County is of the utmost importance. For additional information on preparing for combating COVID-19 please see <https://www.cdph.ca.gov>, <https://www.cde.ca.gov/>, [www.mynevadacounty.com/](http://www.mynevadacounty.com/) or call 211.

Thank you,  
Scott W. Lay  
Nevada County Superintendent of Schools

Chris Espedal, Director of Safety  
Nevada County Superintendent of Schools