



Continental School District No. 39

Governing Board

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Administration

Roxana Rico, *Superintendent*

DeAnna Cuevas, *Principal*

Steven Lathen, *Director of Student Services*

Stacy Matthews, *Director of Business Services*

March 2, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

There have been many questions regarding our preparation for possible community transmission of the Coronavirus. While the immediate risk of the COVID-19 to the general public is believed to be low at this time, Continental ESD #39 is monitoring the situation closely. We are collaborating with the Pima County Health Department, local health department, La Posada, as needed, to ensure the health and safety of our students is maintained to the greatest extent possible. The School Superintendent's Association (AASA) is also keeping us informed and updated as new information becomes available.

Our School Emergency Committee met this morning and we are doing the following immediately:

- **Making sure students wash their hands twice a day (upon entering the classroom and before lunch).**
- **Reminding students to wash their hands every time they go to the restroom.**
- **Posting hand washing procedures around the school and in all restrooms.**

Additional general information:

- Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses, some causing respiratory illness in people. Signs and symptoms, similar to the common cold or the flu, include a fever, cough, difficulty breathing, sore throat, runny nose, and general feeling of being unwell. Rarely, animal coronaviruses can evolve and infect people and then spread between people. For more information about coronaviruses, please see the CDC coronavirus website <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/index.html>
- Those considered at risk for contracting the virus are individuals with travel to Wuhan, China, or individuals in close contact with a person infected with the 2019 Novel Coronavirus.
- Public health officials are advising residents that flu and other respiratory diseases are circulating in the community, and are recommending everyone get a flu shot and follow basic prevention guidelines.
- The best ways to prevent the spread of respiratory viruses are to:
 - Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
 - Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- **Stay home when you are sick.**
 - **Students with a fever of 100.0° F or higher should be kept home from school until they are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications.**
 - Students with multiple or severe respiratory symptoms, which may include a cough, difficulty breathing, sore throat, runny nose, and general feeling of being unwell, should be kept home from school until symptoms improve.
 - Notify your school attendance clerk of your student’s absence and let him/her know when your student is experiencing “flu-like” symptoms. If you take your student to the physician, notify the school nurse if your child was diagnosed with any communicable illness, such as the flu, strep throat, or the Coronavirus.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or sneezing. Throw out any used tissues in the trash and then wash your hands.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- If you have recently traveled to Wuhan, China and have developed fever with cough or shortness of breath within 14 days of your travel, or have had contact with someone who is suspected to have 2019 Novel Coronavirus, stay home and call your healthcare provider right away. If you do not have a health care provider, you may need to be seen at your local hospital emergency room/urgent care center. Please call the emergency room/urgent care center to get instructions before going in.
- Some parents have expressed concern over our students participating in field trips and other community activities/gatherings. Please know, we are monitoring the risk of exposure at these events and will act appropriately based on the information available to us at the time of these events. School site administrators may elect to postpone, modify, or cancel some events. Also, there is generally discretion to parental input in regards to their student’s field trip participation.
- If you have any questions, please feel free to call the school or school nurse at 520.625.4581.

Sincerely,
Ms. Roxana Rico
 Ms. Roxana Rico
 Superintendent