

Petal School District



District Communication

March 5, 2020

In every facet of the Petal School District, our focus is to create a safe and healthy learning environment for our students and staff members. As such, it is important to share how we are continually working on strategies to reduce the spread of a variety of seasonal infectious diseases. Coronavirus is a respiratory illness that causes flu-like illness. Like the flu virus, it is thought to be spread person-to-person by close contact (within 6 feet) and by coughing or sneezing. Other possible routes of transmission, such as touching surfaces contaminated by the virus, are also being investigated.

The Petal School District is closely monitoring this illness. According to the Mississippi State Department of Health, there are currently no cases of Coronavirus in Mississippi.

However, in order to reduce the spread of a wide variety of infectious diseases (e.g., seasonal flu and colds), we are promoting effective strategies built on everyday school policies and practices. People can help protect themselves from respiratory illness with everyday preventive actions such as:

- Avoiding close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.

Additionally, custodial staff are enhancing their sanitation efforts by applying disinfectant in high occupancy common areas and at frequent touch points throughout our schools and buildings. The safety and well-being of students and staff continue to be a top priority in our district.