



OYSTERPONDS U.F.S.D.  
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Richard C.  
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Superintendent of Schools

Principal

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March 6, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians:

The Oysterponds District is closely monitoring the COVID-19 situation and following guidance from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), Suffolk County Department of Health and the New York State Education Department.

The District has infectious disease protocols in place and has been increasing the cleaning and disinfecting throughout the school to minimize the spread of viruses and a variety of other illnesses. 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 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.

If you or a family member begin showing symptoms of a respiratory disease and suspect it may be COVID-19, contact your healthcare provider. Before going to your healthcare provider's office, inform them that a case of COVID-19 is suspected, and follow their advice.

Local health departments will contact our school if a suspected or known COVID-19 case emerges. The District is prepared to work with any affected families

Students in grades 1-6 have received information in their respective health classes from Mrs. Bennett, our School Nurse and Health Teacher. We will continue to keep students and families up-to-date as information becomes available.

Please know that, as always, the health and safety of our students and staff is our highest priority and we will remain vigilant in our efforts to help prevent the spread of this illness.

Sincerely,

Richard C. Malone  
Superintendent of Schools

Jennifer Wissemann  
Principal

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## **Helpful Resources**

Families are encouraged to use the following resources for further information and concerns:

<HTTPS://WWW.CDC.GOV/CORONAVIRUS/2019-COV/TRAVELERS/INDEX.HTML>.

For more information, consider consulting these additional resources:

CDC's dedicated 2019-nCoV website at <https://www.cdc.gov/nCoV>.

NYSDOH's dedicated 2019-nCoV website at  
<https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/coronavirus/>

NYSDOH directory of local health departments  
[https://www.health.ny.gov/contact/contact\\_information/](https://www.health.ny.gov/contact/contact_information/)

New York State Center for School Health website at  
<https://www.schoolhealthny.com>

In addition, New York has established a Novel Coronavirus Hotline, which can provide additional information. Call 1-888-364-3065 with questions or concerns about travel and symptoms.