

March 14, 2020

Dear Families:

The health and safety of students at I.S. 27 (31R027) and all 1.1 million students across the city is our top priority. We are committed to ensuring school communities have the information they need on the coronavirus (COVID-19).

We are writing to inform you that the State has confirmed that a member of the I.S. 27 community has a positive test result for COVID-19.

We are handling this situation with the utmost seriousness. At this time, it is important to listen to facts and not respond to fear. We are following all protocols and will continue to keep you updated. Most immediately, we are taking the steps described below.

What Will Happen

- Your school will be cleaned and disinfected over the weekend in accordance with New York State Department of Health guidelines and must be complete before accepting returning students. As a reminder, NYCDOE routinely conducts deep cleanings in schools and programs.
- During this time, the DOE and the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) will determine any further next steps that need to be taken.
- We anticipate that we will be able to perform all necessary steps over the weekend, and we anticipate that we will have school open on Monday, March 16, 2020, pending confirmation from DOHMH.
- You will be notified in advance of the reopening time. We will confirm status of school for this upcoming Monday by Sunday, March 15.

What You Should Do

- Don't panic.
- Educate yourself about COVID-19 through the NYC Health Department's fact sheet available [here](https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/imm/coronavirus-factsheet.pdf) (<https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/imm/coronavirus-factsheet.pdf>).
- While the school building is closed, families and students will be able to access general grade level instructional materials at www.schools.nyc.gov/learnathome.
- Continue to practice general viral infection prevention measures including:
 - Wash your hands with soap and water often.
 - Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue or sleeve when sneezing or coughing.
 - Do not touch your face with unwashed hands.
 - Do not shake hands. Instead, wave or elbow bump.
 - Monitor your health more closely than usual for cold or flu symptoms.
 - Get your flu shot – it's never too late.
 - Reduce overcrowding by walking or biking to work, if possible.
 - If the train is too packed, wait for the next one.

- If your child feels sick after school reopens, they should stay home. If parents or other family members feel sick, we encourage them to stay home.

If You Feel Sick

- Stay home and call your doctor if you have symptoms like coughing, shortness of breath, fever, or sore throat.
- If you do not feel better in 24-48 hours, contact your doctor.
- Do not go to school or to work until you have been fever-free for at least 72 hours without the use of fever reducing drugs like Tylenol or ibuprofen.
- If you need help finding medical care, call 311.

Please visit nyc.gov/coronavirus at any time for critical updates, including ways to fight stigma and bias around the coronavirus. It's important we come together as a city and support one another as neighbors and New Yorkers during this time.

Nothing matters more than the health and safety of your school community. We will continue to stay in close touch every step of the way, and will let you know when your school is ready to reopen.

Please do not hesitate to contact Superintendent Vincenza Gallasio at VGallas@schools.nyc.gov and 718-420-5657 or call 311 with any questions.

Sincerely,



Richard A. Carranza
Chancellor