

## **Coronavirus and the Hardee County School District**

Although the Hardee County School District is not currently affected by COVID-19, the school district has been monitoring information about the Coronavirus throughout the state of Florida, the United States, and around the globe. Currently, the risk to the general public is considered to be low. However, as this is an evolving situation, we will work closely with our local and state health officials for both direction and guidance. Ultimately, our top priority is the health and safety of our students, staff, and the community.

The school district has taken the following steps and initiatives to prevent the spread of COVID-19:

- Avoiding close contact with people who are sick
- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth
- Covering your cough or sneeze with your elbow or with a tissue
- Students who come to school sick or who become sick during the school day will be sent home immediately
- Parents are urged to keep sick children at home
- Changes in normal absenteeism patterns will be monitored
- Asking teachers to review and emphasize proper handwashing, coughing, and sneezing hygiene practices with students
- Increasing attention to frequently disinfecting common surfaces in schools by district personnel including light switches, doorknobs, tabletops, countertops, and restrooms.
- Increase supply count of soap, hand sanitizers, paper towels and other cleaning materials
- School nurses will report “flu-like” symptoms to parents and the local health department
- Additional information is available on our website through links provided to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention and the Florida Department of Health