



Santa Maria Independent School District

Military Highway 281

P.O. Box 448/11119 Military Road

Mr. Martin Cuellar

Superintendent of Schools

Board Officers:

Adolfo Hinojosa

Board President

Oralia Ortiz

Board Vice-President

Miguel Zavala

Board Secretary

Board Members:

Noe Aleman

Consuelo De La Rosa

Jose. F. Gonzales Jr.

Rambaldo Rivera Jr.

March 4, 2020

Dear Santa Maria ISD Family,

Santa Maria ISD continues to monitor media reports and information about the coronavirus (COVID-19). While there are currently no cases or suspected cases in the district, we will continue to closely follow reports and information shared by public health officials.

Much is being learned about this newly emerged virus. Based on the current information, health officials are recommending local communities and schools should take the same steps to protect against coronavirus as we take to prevent the spread of everyday illnesses like the common cold or the flu:

- 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.
- 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 mouth and nose with the inside of your elbow when you cough or sneeze.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Call and inform the Campus Nurse of any confirmed virus diagnosis.

The 2019 novel coronavirus is believed to be spread through the air when an infected person coughs or sneezes, much in the way like the flu and other respiratory viruses are spread. Symptoms can be fever, cough, or difficulty breathing. At this time, persons considered at risk are those with travel to China, or those in close contact with persons infected with novel coronavirus.

While new types of illness can be scary, we can protect our students, teachers and the broader community by using simple everyday actions that protect people from other types of respiratory viruses. Our teachers, school nurses, and staff are working carefully to encourage these simple and effective habits of frequent handwashing, covering every cough or sneeze, and cleaning classroom tables/surfaces frequently. This is important not just to help prevent the spread of coronavirus but to help prevent the spread of other infections that can lead to student illness and absences.

Sincerely,

Martin Cuellar
Superintendent of Schools

Telephone: 956-565-6308

Central Office

Fax: 956-565-4422