



WANTAGH UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Superintendent of Schools

3301 BELTAGH AVENUE • WANTAGH, NEW YORK 11793 • (516) 679-6300 • FAX (516) 679-7806

John McNamara
Superintendent

February 28, 2020

Dear Wantagh Community,

The recent news reports regarding the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) are understandably creating concerns throughout our community. I want to assure you that I am closely monitoring the situation with Dr. Lawrence E. Eisenstein, Nassau County Commissioner of Health, and our district medical director, Dr. Karl Friedman.

It is important to note there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in New York at this time. The Nassau County Health Department considers the immediate health risk to be low, and is not recommending any changes to regular school programming. The Health Department noted that influenza (the flu) remains a more present concern.

Be assured that Wantagh Schools is abiding by all the guidance issued from the United States Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), New York State Education Department (NYSED), and the Nassau County Department of Health. We will continue to be diligent in the cleaning and sanitizing of all our buildings and encourage everyone to follow these flu season prevention practices:

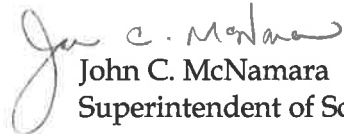
- Stay home when you are sick
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or sneezing
- Routinely clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces

For your reference, there are several links to credible sources for updates on the virus listed below:

- [NYS Department of Health](#)
- [CDC \(Centers for Disease Control\)](#)
- [Nassau County Health Department](#)
- [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#)

Our primary concern is the health and safety of our students and staff. We will continue to keep you updated as new information becomes available. Thank you for your cooperation in practicing the everyday preventative actions outlined above to help keep our school community healthy.

Sincerely,


John C. McNamara
Superintendent of Schools