Glassboro Public Schools

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Mark J. Silverstein, MBA, Ed.D, Superintendent of Schools

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Glassboro Public School District is committed to ensuring the health and safety of students and staff in our buildings. The district is actively monitoring updates and recommendations provided by the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and is prepared to implement any requirements from these organizations. We feel that following these precautionary measures will help keep our school community healthy.

Presently, the NJDOH is recommending that school districts reinforce <u>standard procedures for</u> preventing seasonal respiratory illness/infections and specifically recommends the following steps:

- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve, not your hands.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Wash hands often for at least 20 seconds, especially after coughing or sneezing, or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer, if soap and water are not available.
- Stay home when you are sick and avoid people who are sick.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Additional important preventative and protectant measures include:

- Adhere to exclusion recommendations from public health. For acute respiratory illnesses: Do not return to school until fever free for 24 hours without the aid of fever reducing medication.
- Attempt to separate sick students and staff until they can go home.
- Increased cleaning and disinfection procedures throughout the district including "high-touch" surfaces such as doorknobs, light switches, faucets, tables, desks, and hands-on-learning items.

How can you help prevent the spread of respiratory illness?

- Please have a plan in place to promptly pick up sick children when called by the school nurse.
- Please be sure the school has current contact information where you can be reached promptly.
- Please keep your child home from school until symptom-free for 24 hours without the aid of fever-reducing medication, such as Tylenol or Ibuprofen.
- Understand that it may be necessary for your child to wear a small face shield or mask to contain
 any excessive coughing, in order to minimize spread of germs/viruses to others, while waiting to
 be picked up from school.

Preventative actions already in place in Glassboro Public Schools include:

• Students with complaints of illness are promptly evaluated by school nurse. When possible concern for communicable disease presents, parents/guardians are contacted and directed to pick up their child as soon as possible.

- Review of Public Health Recommendations for when a child is picked up from school due to fever, excess, coughing, vomiting or other possible communicable diseases. Parents/Guardians are directed that child must remain home until symptom free for 24 hours without the aid of medication, such as Tylenol, Ibuprofen, Stomach Medications, etc. Children who are sent to school prematurely, may once again be sent home.
- At this time, school nurses have been given the authority to excuse absences for children who
 have presented with flu-like illnesses, as along as regular communication with the school nurse
 takes place.
- Instructing staff and students to remain home when sick.
- Face masks will be provided to any child who presents in the nurse's office with excessive coughing. This will be worn until child picked up from school nurse office, in order to minimize spread of airborne germs/viruses to other students and staff.
- Staff who present with excessive coughing and flu-like symptoms will be given a mask and directed to go home.
- Intensified daily cleaning and disinfecting of schools, paying special attention to frequently touched surfaces and objects, as part of ongoing custodial services in the school, following recommendations from local, state, and federal entities regarding the Coronavirus.
- Supplemental daily bus cleaning with more extensive, weekly disinfecting.
- Ongoing monitoring of NJDOH and CDC information and complying with all requirements.

We are most grateful for your understanding and assistance in these matters. The health of our students and staff is important to us.

We will continue to work with the state and national health organizations to monitor and follow their recommendations. We will provide you with further updates as they become available. For information on the Coronavirus, please visit the following websites below.

NJ Department of Health:

https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/2019nCoV k12schools.pdf

Center for Disease Control:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html

Sincerely,

Mary Si hoskin

Dr. Mark Silverstein Superintendent