



Holley Central School District

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March 5, 2020

Greetings Holley families,

In December 2019, a new respiratory disease called Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) was detected in China. Since then it has been found in other countries around the world, including the United States. COVID-19 is caused by a virus (SARS-CoV-2) that is part of a large family of viruses called coronaviruses. To help prevent the spread of COVID-19, we need to continue to educate our students about proper hand and respiratory hygiene and to maintain good sanitary practices.

The health and well-being of our students and staff is a priority at Holley CSD and we will continue to take precautionary measures to maintain a clean and safe environment. The district will continue to monitor and seek guidance from, and work in collaboration with, the NYS Department of Health, Orleans County Department of Health, and the NYS Department of Education. We have infectious disease protocols in place and have been taking steps, such as cleaning and disinfecting, in order to minimize the spread of viruses and a variety of other illnesses. We have instructed staff about preventative measures to share with their students and have taken extra care with our daily cleaning routines.

The best way to prevent acquiring the virus is to avoid being exposed. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends preventative actions every day to help minimize the spread of the virus. Suggestions from the CDC include:

- 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 sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or sneezing. Throw tissue immediately into the garbage.
- Clean and disinfect objects and surfaces frequently.

People who think they have been exposed to COVID-19 should contact their healthcare provider. Local health departments will contact schools if a suspected or known case emerges.

Below are resources with additional information:

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on COVID-19: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

New York State Department of Health: <https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/coronavirus/>

Travel Advice: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/faqs.html>

Prevention and treatment: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/faqs.html>

Thank you for your attention to this important information. Our ability to work together to ensure a safe and healthy learning environment in our school district is of the utmost importance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Bartalo". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Brian" and last name "Bartalo" clearly distinguishable.

Brian Bartalo; Holley Superintendent of Schools