



Dear Parents and Families,

The health and safety of our students is our top priority, and we are writing to update you on an evolving health issue involving a new coronavirus that has emerged from Wuhan, China over the past few weeks.

CPS is working closely with the Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) and carefully heeding the advice of the [U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](https://www.cdc.gov) (CDC).

Here are important actions we can all take to protect ourselves and others from this virus:

- Wash your hands regularly with soap and water. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze—and remember to wash your hands afterwards.
- Avoid close contact with sick people. If you are sick, stay home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone except to get medical care or for other urgent necessities.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that may be contaminated with germs.

If you experience concerning symptoms, such as severe cough; rapid, noisy, painful, or other difficult breathing; and dehydration, please contact your health care provider immediately for advice. Please notify your school of any significant diagnoses made by your doctor.

We will be following the situation closely with CDPH as the CDC investigates this virus and will provide further updates and guidance as needed.

For more information, visit www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth Fox", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Kenneth Fox, MD
Chief Health Officer
Chicago Public Schools