



Department
of Health

Mike DeWine, Governor
Jon Husted, Lt. Governor

Amy Acton, M.D., MPH, Director

March 11, 2020

Dear K-12 School Partners,

With Ohio reporting its first positive cases of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), it is important that we take steps to prevent its spread, and you can help support these efforts. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) notes that for most people, the immediate risk of being exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19 is thought to be low, and the virus is not currently widespread in the United States.

In case you haven't already seen it, CDC has developed "Interim Guidance for Administrators of U.S. Childcare Programs and K-12 Schools to Plan, Prepare, and Respond to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)" which is available on CDC's website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/guidance-for-schools.html>.

The CDC guidance should help K-12 schools and their partners understand how to help prevent the transmission of COVID-19 within school facilities. It also aims to help schools and partners to react quickly should a case be identified. The guidance includes considerations to help administrators plan for the continuity of teaching and learning if there is community spread of COVID-19.

Attached are flyers that you can share with your students, teachers, and staff and/or post in your schools consisting of a COVID-19 key FAQ and tips for preventing the spread of germs that can cause infectious diseases. For up to date COVID-19 information and other resources, go to www.coronavirus.ohio.gov, which is maintained by the Ohio Department of Health.

If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please contact me or your local health department.

Sincerely,

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