

Orange School District Guidance and Resources on the 2019 Novel Coronavirus

The Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) was first detected in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China, in December 2019. On February 3, 2020, the New Jersey Department of Education released updated advice for individuals who have traveled to and from mainland China based on the latest medical advice.

There are no cases of the Novel Coronavirus in New Jersey, and the risk to the general public remains low. There is no specific antiviral treatment recommended at this time. The Orange School district will continue to monitor the situation and follow the guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the New Jersey Department of Health and the New Jersey Department of Education.

Can my child attend a school or early childhood center?

Under the following circumstances, you **cannot** attend a school or early childhood centers:

If a student has traveled from Wuhan, Hubei Province, China within the past two weeks or has been in close contact with an individual who has traveled from Wuhan, Hubei Province, China within the last two weeks. Our district doctor recommends that you must be in isolation until 14 days have elapsed after leaving Hubei Province.

As a parent, what steps should I follow if my child is returning from China?

1. Contact your child's physician immediately for a consultation, even if your child is not currently showing symptoms, and inform them about your travels.
2. Contact the school nurse

If you have been in close contact with an infected individual, you should contact your physician prior to going to the office and inform the office of your symptoms.

What are the symptoms?

Symptoms include (but are not limited to) fever, cough, sore throat, fatigue, and shortness of breath.

How can the spread of the 2019-nCoV be prevented?

- Avoid contact with others who are sick.
- Do not travel if you are sick.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands).
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- Clean and disinfect touched surfaces often

The New Jersey Department of Education has established a hotline to answer questions about the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (**1-800-222-1222**). The hotline is available 24 hours a day with trained healthcare professionals to answer any additional questions in multiple languages.

The safety of all our students and staff will continue to be a priority. If any information changes, you will be updated accordingly.

Additional information can be accessed from the websites below regarding the 2019 Novel Coronavirus

- [CDC Coronavirus Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [CDC Coronavirus Guidance for Prevention \(February 1, 2020\)](#)
- [NJDOE Corona Virus Guidance & Resources and Updates](#)
- [NJ Department of Health Coronavirus Fact Sheet](#)
- [NJDOH Coronavirus Information for K-12 Schools - Managing Students \(Travelers\) Returning from China*](#)

- Washing hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoiding touching eyes, nose, and mouth
- Avoiding close contact with people who are sick
- Staying home when sick and avoiding close contact with others
- Covering mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing and throwing away tissues
- Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces
- The safety and health of our SOMSD students and staff is a priority, and we will keep you updated as needed.

With rising concern over the new coronavirus outbreak that is currently centered in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China, the South Orange & Maplewood School District continues to carefully monitor the situation and heed guidance that has been provided by the New Jersey Department of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the World Health Organization and the NJ Department of Education.

Although this virus is understandably a cause for concern, it is important for New Jersey residents to know that the risk to the general public still remains low. For our District, if a student has recently traveled to Wuhan, China (within the past two-weeks) or has been in close contact with others who recently traveled to Wuhan, China, our District physician is recommending *that the student stay home for two weeks before returning to school*. Therefore, if any student returns from China, their parent/guardian should call their health care provider (even if symptoms do not currently exist) for a consult and then contact their school nurse.

If a student/parent and/or guardian has symptoms, they should call a healthcare provider immediately and inform them of the close contact with the coronavirus before going into a healthcare provider's office.

Please take a moment to read and access the following important references regarding the Coronavirus:

- [NJDOE Corona Virus Guidance & Resources and Updates](#)
- [NJ Department of Health Coronavirus Fact Sheet](#)
- [NJDOH Coronavirus Information for K-12 Schools - Managing Students \(Travelers\) Returning from China*](#)
- [CDC Coronavirus Guidance for Prevention \(February 1, 2020\)](#)
- [CDC Coronavirus Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [WHO Coronavirus Information](#)
- [SOMSD Nursing Website](#)

The NJDOH recommends that everyone follow the steps below to help prevent the transmission of respiratory infections:

- Washing hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoiding touching eyes, nose, and mouth
- Avoiding close contact with people who are sick
- Staying home when sick and avoiding close contact with others
- Covering mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing and throwing away tissues
- Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces
- The safety and health of our SOMSD students and staff is a priority and we will keep you updated as needed.

** NJDOH: These guidance documents apply to travelers arriving back to the U.S. before February 2, 2020 at 5pm. New screening and management protocols might take effect on February 2, 2020 at 5pm. Additional guidance will be made available for those who arrive after this date and time.*

- [NJDOE Corona Virus Guidance & Resources and Updates](#)
- [NJ Department of Health Coronavirus Fact Sheet](#)
- [NJDOH Coronavirus Information for K-12 Schools - Managing Students \(Travelers\) Returning from China*](#)
- [CDC Coronavirus Guidance for Prevention \(February 1, 2020\)](#)
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