



MONTCLAIR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

22 VALLEY ROAD ~ MONTCLAIR, NEW JERSEY 07042

WWW.MONTCLAIR.K12.NJ.US

NATHAN N. PARKER, ED. D.

Interim Superintendent of Schools

February 28, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians and Staff,

The Montclair Public Schools continue preparations for the possibility of a coronavirus epidemic.

Our school nurses are moving through classrooms with age appropriate educational programs focusing on stopping the spread of germs. Our students are excited to participate in these lessons, and are asking many engaging questions.

Students who are ill with respiratory symptoms, flu-like illness, or diarrhea/vomiting should stay home for 24 hours fever-free without fever-reducing medication, and/or 24 hours free of diarrhea/vomiting. Please call your child's school to report his/her/they absence and contact your child's primary healthcare provider for recommendations.

Students with a fever of 100 degrees or above, severe respiratory symptoms and/or diarrhea/vomiting will be excluded from school.

The New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) does not recommend school closure for outbreaks of infectious disease. The decision to close our schools is an administrative one that will be made only after consultation with The Montclair Department of Health and our district physician. The decision will be made based on the following factors:

- Recommended control measures are inadequate
- Schools are unable to function due to increased illness/absence of staff members
- The NJDOH declares an epidemic

We will continue to communicate with you when we receive updated guidelines from the NJDOH. Updates will be posted on our website: www.montclair.k12.nj.us. We are in the process of discussing options to handle absences and continuation of instruction.

NJDOH Hotline for Questions/Concerns: 1-800-222-1222 and [website](http://www.njdoh.org). The NJDOH Novel Coronavirus Call Center is open and is taking calls from the general public only. It is open 24/7 and can accommodate callers in multiple languages.

Sincerely,
Dr. Nathan N. Parker
Interim Superintendent

Betty Strauss
District Nursing Supervisor