

## **Cheektowaga CSD Response and Proactive Measures Regarding the Coronavirus or COVID-19 Concerns**

*The CCSD has been meeting regularly as an administrative team to share updated information from the Erie County Department of Health, The Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the New York State Health Department regarding the Coronavirus or COVID-19. We have acted in according to their recommendations and have put into place a series of protocols to help all increase not only awareness of the virus (or others such as influenza), but personal hygiene practices as well.*

### **What have we done:**

- *Issued a letter from the superintendent on 2/5/20, indicating the name of the virus, what is known about the virus and preventative measures that all should take. A link to the Erie County Department of Health was added as well and all were placed on the CCSD website, alongside of precautions for/with regard to influenza.*
- *An increase in cleaning protocols were initiated to include sanitizing of desks, door handles, door knobs, play or common areas such as doorways and more.*
- *Weekly webinars presented by the NYSDOH and the CDC were observed by nursing staff within the district and shared with the health team and central office.*
- *Updates regarding the virus , the virus spread and ongoing health protocols were shared.*
- *Issued a second letter from the superintendent on 3/5/2020, indicating new information about the virus, as well as the preventative measures that should be taken to stave off the virus and more. The letter and links were placed on the district website and a larger icon titling the virus/name was added to the main page .*
- *The letter to families was also sent via blackboard connect on March 4 and building level principals were provided same.*
- *Principals met with the Director of Pupil Services and began to outline a plan of “next steps” relative to the virus and possible virus spread. In other words: what do we do next?*
- *Open lines of communication were established between all buildings, central office and home. Faculty meetings were set up to talk about what we know, what the recommendations are and again to discuss preventative measures/protocols/safety*

*information relative to the virus, beginning on 3/4 at Union East. Faculty meetings took place on 3/6 at both the MS & HS levels with full staff participation.*

- *Central Office and building level admin teams met on 3/6 to organize and align the district level safety plan to include pandemic planning via recommendations of the NYSDOH, the CDC and the Erie County Department of Health. These plans are precautionary in nature, but allude to what districts should do in the event of excessive student or staff absences. Again, this is precautionary but proactive, in the event of the spread of the virus (or any other virus such as influenza) that may cause local districts to close school.*
- *100 + additional receptacles for dispensing hand sanitizer have been ordered and are in the process of being deployed across all K-12 schools.*
- *Additional cleaning staff have been brought in to assist in the daily sanitizing of schools.*
- *CCSD will initiate sanitizing of buses along with collaboration from WNY Bus Company*
- *CCSD will initiate sanitizing daily of toys and other play items used by multiple students*
- *CCSD will initiate sanitizing of computer keyboards and screens within the tech department*
- *Updates will continue to be posted on the district website.*
- *Families will receive a copy of the letter reminding them what protocols to follow if fever, vomiting, diarrhea are present and when to send their child to school OR when to keep them home. Guidance from the CDC is the same for students and staff: Stay home if you are sick and once fever free for 24 hours, return to school with doctor's clearance.*
- *Nursing staff and the Director of PPS will be in contact with the Erie County Dept. of Health with regard to Coronavirus or COVID – 19 updates.*