



Mason Consolidated Schools

2400 Mason Eagles Drive Erie, MI 48133

Andrew Shaw, Superintendent

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www.eriamason.k12.mi.us

March 11, 2020

Dear Mason Eagle Families and Community,

Many of you have been following news from around the world and within our country regarding COVID-19 (formerly known as Novel Coronavirus 2019) and have thoughts, questions, and concerns about this virus's impact on our community and your family. It is our goal to share the most current information we have regarding COVID-19 and provide resources for future information. As you are aware, the information on this virus is changing by the day and there is a lot of information being shared through many media sources. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) and Monroe County Health Department (MCHD) remain our best resources for accurate and up to date information.

What you need to know:

The 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) is a virus first detected in Wuhan, China, that has caused an outbreak of respiratory illness. The current outbreak has spread internationally, impacting an increasing number of countries. In the United States, imported cases of coronavirus infection in travelers have been detected and person-to-person spread of the virus also has been seen among close contacts of returned travelers from China. On February 25, 2020, the CDC confirmed COVID-19 in an individual who reportedly did not have relevant travel history or exposure to another known patient. As of last night, there have been two Michigan residents tested presumptive positive for coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), the first confirmed cases in the state. The Governor declared a state of emergency to maximize efforts to slow the spread of the virus.

Action Steps

1. Stay informed – the situation with the coronavirus is fluid and the [CDC](https://www.cdc.gov) is updating its website daily with the latest information and advice for the public.
2. Remember to take everyday preventive actions that are always recommended to prevent the spread of respiratory viruses:
 1. Avoid close contact with sick people.
 2. While sick, limit contact with others as much as possible. **Stay home if you are sick.**
 3. Cover your nose and mouth when you cough or sneeze. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth. Germs spread this way.
 4. Clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that may be contaminated with germs.
 5. Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub with at least 60% alcohol.
3. The CDC and State Department have issued advisories asking people to avoid all nonessential travel to China and South Korea at this time. Travel alerts have also been issued for Japan, Italy, and Iran.

It is the policy of the Mason Consolidated School District that no discriminatory practices based on gender, race, religion, color, age, national origin, disability, height, weight or any other status covered by federal, state or local law be allowed in providing instructional opportunities, programs, services, job placement assistance, employment or in policies governing student conduct and attendance. Any person suspecting a discriminatory practice should contact the Superintendent of Schools at the Mason Consolidated School District, 2400 Mason Eagles Drive, Erie, MI 48133 or call (734) 848-9304. APPROVED AUGUST 18, 2003



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Given the rapidly evolving situation with COVID-19, it is prudent to revisit your organization's emergency preparedness plans, including any pandemic planning. The CDC has made [pre-pandemic planning guides](#) available for community and faith-based organizations, educational institutions, workplaces, and individual households.

Mason Consolidated Schools has been taking extra cleaning measures in order to combat the spread of colds and flu, a practice we will continue as an extra layer of protection as we deal with the threat of this virus. Additional information is available on the MDHHS and CDC websites via the links below, including CDC fact sheets that are updated regularly. You will also find a separate page on our website dedicated to providing information and useful links.

[CDC COVID-19 Info](#)

[CDC Fact Sheets](#)

[MDHHS COVID-19 Info](#)

The District will remain in close communication with the MCHD and MDHHS, and we will continue to monitor the CDC website and send necessary updates as they become available.

Thank you,

A blue ink signature of Andrew Shaw, written in a cursive style.

Andrew Shaw
Superintendent