## CORONAVIRUS PREPAREDNESS TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2020

Outbreaks of novel virus infections among people are always of public health concern. While the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) considers this to be a serious public health threat, based on current information, the immediate health risk from 2019-nCoV to the general American public is considered low at this time. With that said, we will continue to take proactive preparedness measures as more cases are likely to be identified in the United States. It is important to have correct information about the Coronavirus. To learn more, please click on this link: <a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html</a>

Our school district is working closely with state and local health departments to review and update emergency preparation plans in the event of a pandemic. Our administration and custodial staff continue to work diligently to ensure a clean environment for both students and staff. In the event of a confirmed case in the Eastern Pulaski school district, appropriate measures would be taken with the guidance of the health department.

At this time, we will continue to monitor students, using normal school procedures, to assess symptoms. Patients in other areas of the world with a confirmed 2019-nCoV infection have reported mild to severe respiratory symptoms, fever, cough and shortness of breath. We continue to encourage all students and staff to practice good health hygiene to prevent the spread of any illness, including viruses. Steps include:

- 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.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- When you are sick, stay home.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Sincerely,

Dara Chezem Superintendent