

Washington
Township
Public
Schools



Eileen Abbott Central Administration Building
Office of the Superintendent
206 East Holly Avenue • Sewell, New Jersey 08080
(856) 589-6644 • FAX (856) 256-8931

March 12, 2020

Good afternoon, WTPS Staff and Families,

To reiterate my earlier communication, the purpose of this message is to dispel misinformation that has circulated among our school community. To date, the Washington Township Public Schools have not received notification of any suspected or presumptive COVID-19 cases among our students, staff, or community. We have been in contact with the Gloucester County Department of Health, who assured us that we would be notified of any confirmed cases so that we may implement emergency procedures. In the current situation, we understand that everyone is discussing the possibility of the spread of COVID-19, which may create inaccurate information. Please know that if the District is made aware of any confirmed COVID-19 cases, we would report this to staff, students, and the community, as well as implement our Coronavirus/COVID-19 Action Plan. An overview of this action plan is attached for your review.

At this time, and as there are no confirmed cases in Gloucester County, there are no cancelations of school activities such as musicals, school concerts, or other events. Naturally, attendees who are more susceptible to illness or who are not comfortable attending public events may opt not to attend. Clearly, as the issue is constantly changing, we will continue to review the recommendations from the Department of Health, as well as monitor the decisions of our neighboring districts to ensure we are giving appropriate guidance.

That being said, we understand that you have questions about what other steps the District is taking to both prevent or respond to public health-related issues. To keep you as informed as possible and to respond to community questions and concerns, we have developed a communication process that we will utilize to provide you with accurate information as it becomes available. All District-developed documents and resources will be housed in one location on our website at [Coronavirus/COVID-19 Information and Links](#).

Additionally, we have developed an email address (feedback@wtps.org) that you may utilize to communicate your questions, concerns, and recommendations, as we would like to hear from you. We will review these emails to develop responses and post them on our dedicated Frequently Asked Questions link on the webpage noted above. Please note that not every question will be able to be answered, nor will every scenario be able to be addressed; however, we will work carefully to prioritize and make decisions that will

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keep our community as informed and safe as possible.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping us to continue to safeguard the health and well-being of our staff and students. It is during challenging times that we need to remember to be compassionate, patient, and collaborative as a community to continue to be Together With Pride.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph N. Bollendorf", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Joseph N. Bollendorf
Superintendent

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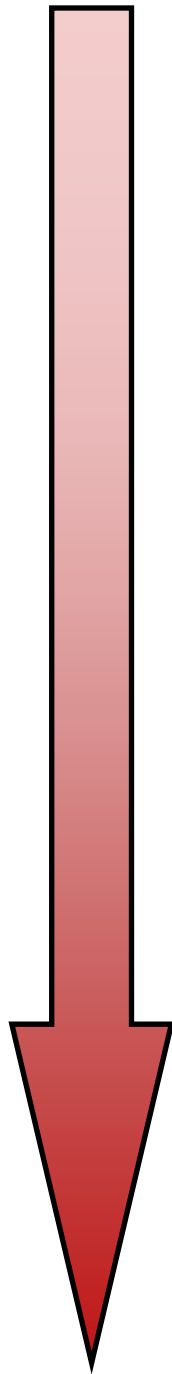


Washington Township Public Schools

2020 Coronavirus/COVID-19

Action Plan Overview

The stages below identify the progression of actions to respond to the Coronavirus/COVID-19 health threat. The District already has implemented many of these steps and is prepared to enforce others as needed, depending on the severity of the situation.



PREPARING

Schools remain in session

- District officials actively monitor, synthesize, and communicate information from broadcasts and guidance from NJDOE, NJDOH, CDC, and Gloucester County Department of Health
- Establish Task Force and develop/implement Coronavirus/COVID-19 Action Plan
- Preventative education campaign to include informational links, posters, and documents
- Enhance daily disinfection and cleaning protocols in all district facilities and buses
- Survey all families for remote learning capabilities and prepare for remote instruction

LIMITING

Schools remain in session with limitations

- Consider limiting student and community volunteers
- Consider limiting audience attendance at school activities
- Consider postponing outside groups' events in our buildings; reschedule as possible

POSTPONING/CANCELING

Schools remain in session with limitations and cancellations

- Consider postponing all athletic and extra-curricular activities, district sponsored events, travel and field trips; reschedule as possible
- Consider suspending Community Based Instruction

CLOSING

School buildings closed

- Essential personnel will implement the Coronavirus/COVID-19 Action Plan
- Transition to remote instruction procedures
- All school-sponsored events/activities postponed or cancelled
- Initiate plans to disseminate meals for qualified students