Coronavirus Information & Resources

This is the time of year when we see an increase in children who are coughing, sneezing and exhibiting other symptoms, typical during cold and flu season. With news of the spread of the "coronavirus", we too see a heightened sense of concern about our own preparedness should we see cases closer to home.

Although we are being assured that Americans have a low risk of exposure to the virus, we are taking a number of precautions.

The Trumbull County Educational Service Center is working in close coordination with the Trumbull County Board of Health and our other public schools to ensure the health, safety, and wellbeing of all of our students and staff.

We are also reviewing our safety plans and incorporating recommended steps that address widespread flu and pandemic disease outbreaks.

In coordination with our County Health Commissioner and Epidemiologist, we are providing the most up-to-date information on our website. We too may send home information with students and use our one-call system.

The Trumbull County ESC is committed to making all decisions in the best interest of the health, safety and wellbeing of students and of the community.

The Trumbull County ESC, along with our public schools, will remain proactive.

As a precaution, we are:

- Continuing to be in close contact with local health department and county emergency management agencies to remain up-to-date on local health emergency procedures in our community. This enables us to be proactive in our decision-making.
- Convening teams to help plan, educate and promote awareness of emergency procedures that are specific to a virus outbreak.
- Reviewing and modifying our emergency management plans as needed in light of any new information we receive.
- Reminding families to update their emergency contact information at their child's school.
- Communicating/sharing through the TCESC website and social and news media any steps we are taking to be as prepared as possible.

You can help yourself and your loved ones stay healthy by <u>washing your hands often</u>, especially during these key times when you are likely to get and spread germs. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends:

- Before, during, and after preparing food
- Before eating food
- Before and after caring for someone at home who is sick with vomiting or diarrhea

- Before and after treating a cut or wound
- After using the toilet
- After changing diapers or cleaning up a child who has used the toilet
- After blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing
- After touching an animal, animal feed, or animal waste
- After handling pet food or pet treats
- After touching garbage

Resources

Ohio Department of Health
Ohio Department of Education
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
World Health Organization