

February 3, 2020

Dear Bellevue School District Learning Community:

This message updates you on the coronavirus (2019-nCoV).

As mentioned in earlier communications, the Bellevue School District is committed to keeping our learning community informed. Your health and well-being are a top concern.

The Washington State Department of Health is the lead agency in public health crisis situations in our state and provides school districts direction on how to manage responses.

Based on input from the Washington State Department of Health:

The Bellevue School District is recommending that **all students, staff, and others returning from China stay home and away from others and monitor their health for 14 days.**

If you have come into contact with people that have recently returned from a visit to China, we thank you in advance for helping to **monitor for symptoms for the coronavirus.**

From the **Washington State Department of Health website:**

**Should all children returning from China stay home from school for 14 days?**

Yes. The White House Coronavirus Task Force announced on January 31, 2020 that all people returning from China will be asked to stay at home away from others and monitor their health for 14 days.

Washington State Department of Health's recommendations to schools: **<https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/Coronavirus/Schools>.**

**What the Bellevue School District is doing:**

Student absences will be excused for those who stay home due to this recommendation. Please contact your school's attendance specialist to inform them of your situation. Please work with your student's school to answer any questions.

The district has heightened its focus on maintaining a clean school environment, including providing additional hand sanitizer and focus on cleaning high use areas.

**Other helpful information:**

- **Bellevue School District guidelines** for when to keep your children home during normal illness.

- Follow district messaging on coronavirus: <https://bsd405.org/coronavirus>.

[Washington State Department of Health coronavirus information page](#)