

March 6, 2020

Dear Bellevue School District Learning Community,

As we close out this week, we are thankful for the suggestions, ideas, and support you have given us as we strive to keep our students and staff safe. We are deeply appreciative of our staff and their efforts to support our students on a daily basis. **We want to reiterate that there are still no confirmed cases of COVID-19 (coronavirus) in the Bellevue School District at this time.** Public Health – Seattle & King County **continues to recommend that schools remain open.** You can find the most current guidance from Public Health on [their website](#).

### **New Guidance for Staying Home from Public Health**

Yesterday evening, Public Health released revised guidelines for self-quarantining related to COVID-19 (coronavirus). More specifically:

- **If you have confirmed or suspected COVID-19:** Stay in home isolation for 7 days OR until 72 hours after your fever has resolved and symptoms get better, whichever is longer.
- **If you have COVID-19 symptoms but haven't been around anyone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19:** Stay in home isolation and avoid others for 72 hours after your fever goes down and symptoms get better.

This is in addition to their previous guidance:

- **If you have had close contact with someone confirmed to have COVID-19, but do not have symptoms:** Do not go to school or work. Avoid public places for 14 days. Monitor your health for fever, cough and shortness of breath for 14 days after your last contact with the ill person.

You can see the complete guidance from Public Health [here](#).

### **Instructional Support Opportunities**

We are refining our plans for providing instructional support opportunities in the event of school closure. We will have more detailed information to share next week. These learning opportunities will not be a replacement for the full learning currently delivered in schools.

### **Notifications**

In the event that the decision is made to close school, you will be notified using the same channels that we use for notice of other emergency closures (i.e. closures due to inclement weather). If there are any decisions made to close schools, we will inform our community immediately via SchoolMessenger, our district website, and our official social media channels.

### **Stay Connected**

Our decisions may change as this situation evolves. We are committed to providing you with timely and accurate updates. We will continue to update our [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) page daily](#). We want to express our appreciation for the patience of our Bellevue community as we work through the daily challenges COVID-19 has presented us.