

MONTAGUE TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

475 Route 206 Montague, NJ 07827

V: 973 293 7131 / F: 973 293 3391

www.montagueschool.org



Timothy C. Capone

Chief School Administrator

Maria Costa

*Confidential District Office Secretary/
Board Secretary*

Erkan Gumustekin

Business Administrator

Alvinna Mheiny

Assistant to Business Administrator

Dear Montague Township School Families,

The well-being of our students and staff are always top-priority for the Montague Township School District. With growing public concern regarding the coronavirus, or COVID-19, I would like to share the CDC recommendations for staying healthy and keeping our community safe. There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease. The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. However, as a reminder, CDC always recommends everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases, including:

- Stay home when you are sick. Do not return to work until you are free of fever (100.4° F or greater using an oral thermometer), signs of a fever, and any other symptoms for at least 24 hours, without the use of fever-reducing or other symptom-altering medicines (e.g. acetaminophen, cough suppressants, etc.).
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing
 - If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.

In accordance with New Jersey Department of Health recommendations, if a student presents to the health office with fever, cough, or difficulty breathing they will be kept in the health office and asked to wear a face mask until they can be picked up. At this time the Health Department is NOT recommending healthy individuals wear face masks.

If you or your family have any additional concerns and questions, the New Jersey Department of Health 24-hour Public Hotline can be accessed at 1-800-222-1222.

Regards,

Kayla Poalillo

Nurse

Montague Township School

973-293-7131 ext 214

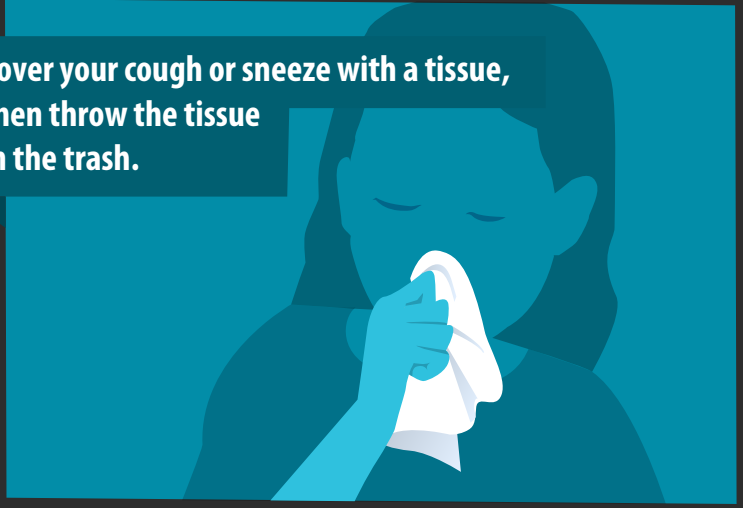
STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.

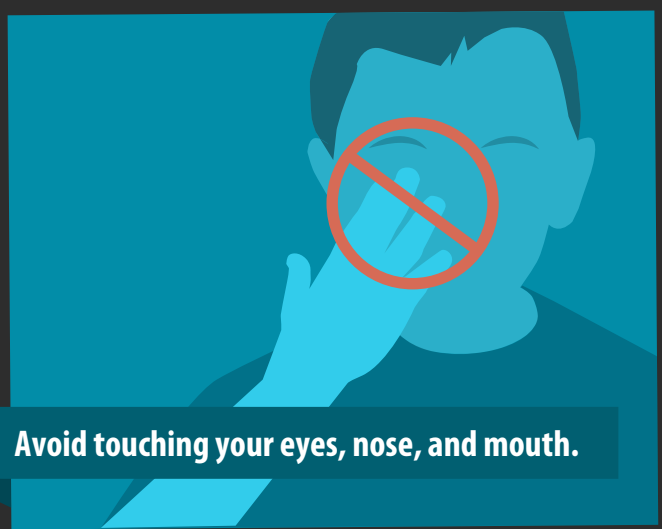
Avoid close contact with people who are sick.



Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.



Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.



Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.



Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.



Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.



For more information: www.cdc.gov/COVID19

What you need to know about coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)

What is coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)?

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness that can spread from person to person. The virus that causes COVID-19 is a novel coronavirus that was first identified during an investigation into an outbreak in Wuhan, China.

Can people in the U.S. get COVID-19?

COVID-19 is spreading from person to person in China, and limited spread among close contacts has been detected in some countries outside China, including the United States. At this time, however, this virus is NOT currently spreading in communities in the United States. Right now, the greatest risk of infection is for people in China or people who have traveled to China. Risk of infection is dependent on exposure. Close contacts of people who are infected are at greater risk of exposure, for example health care workers and close contacts of people who are infected with the virus that causes COVID-19. CDC continues to closely monitor the situation.

Have there been cases of COVID-19 in the U.S.?

Yes. The first case of COVID-19 in the United States was reported on January 21, 2020. The current count of cases of COVID-19 in the United States is available on CDC's webpage at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-in-us.html>.

How does COVID-19 spread?

The virus that causes COVID-19 probably emerged from an animal source, but now it seems to be spreading from person to person. It's important to note that person-to-person spread can happen on a continuum. Some diseases are highly contagious (like measles), while other diseases are less so. At this time, it's unclear how easily or sustainably the virus that causes COVID-19 is spreading between people. Learn what is known about the spread of newly emerged coronaviruses at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/transmission.html>.

What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

Patients with COVID-19 have had mild to severe respiratory illness with symptoms of

- fever
- cough
- shortness of breath



What are severe complications from this virus?

Many patients have pneumonia in both lungs.

How can I help protect myself?

The best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19.

There are simple everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses.

These include

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.

If you are sick, to keep from spreading respiratory illness to others, you should

- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

What should I do if I recently traveled to China and got sick?

If you were in China within the past 14 days and feel sick with fever, cough, or difficulty breathing, you should seek medical care. Call the office of your health care provider before you go, and tell them about your travel and your symptoms. They will give you instructions on how to get care without exposing other people to your illness. While sick, avoid contact with people, don't go out and delay any travel to reduce the possibility of spreading illness to others.

Is there a vaccine?

There is currently no vaccine to protect against COVID-19. The best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19.

Is there a treatment?

There is no specific antiviral treatment for COVID-19. People with COVID-19 can seek medical care to help relieve symptoms.

The current outbreak of 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) was first identified in China but has now spread internationally, impacting an increasing number of countries. Sustained community spread is occurring in China. Limited person-to-person spread, most associated with close contact with a patient with confirmed 2019-nCoV, has been seen outside of China. No community spread of 2019-nCoV has been identified in the United States at this time.

In the coming days and weeks, we expect more confirmed cases in the United States, including some person-to-person spread. The goal of CDC's aggressive ongoing public health response is to prevent spread of 2019-nCoV in the United States.

What you should do

- **STAY INFORMED** – CDC is updating its website daily with the latest information and advice for the public. (www.cdc.gov/ncov)
- **REMEMBER TO TAKE EVERYDAY PREVENTIVE ACTIONS** that are always recommended to prevent the spread of respiratory viruses.
 - » Avoid close contact with sick people.
 - » While sick, limit contact with others as much as possible.
 - » Stay home if you are sick.
 - » Cover your nose and mouth when you cough or sneeze. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands; germs spread this way.
 - » Clean and disinfect surfaces and objects that may be contaminated with germs.
 - » Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub with at least 60% alcohol.
- **IF YOU FEEL SICK** with fever, cough, or difficulty breathing, and have traveled to China or were in close contact with someone with 2019-nCoV in the 14 days before you began to feel sick, seek medical care. Before you go to a doctor's office or emergency room, call ahead and tell them about your recent travel and your symptoms.

What you should not do

- **DO NOT** travel to China.
- **DO NOT** use facemasks. CDC does not recommend the use of facemasks for the **general U.S. public** to prevent the spread of 2019-nCoV.
- **DO NOT** show prejudice to people of Asian descent, because of fear of this new virus. Do not assume that someone of Asian descent is more likely to have 2019-nCoV.

All persons in the U.S.—including those of Asian descent—who have not traveled to China or been in contact with someone with a confirmed or suspected nCoV case in the last 14 days are at low risk of becoming sick.





HEALTH RELATED PLAN 2020

General Information Regarding Flu and Covid-19

These are the websites most frequently used and updated when looking for current information:

- CDC Flu Resources - <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/index.htm>
- CDC COVID19 Interim Guidance for Administrators of US Childcare Programs and K-12 Schools
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/guidance-for-schools.html>
- Sussex County Department of Health - <https://www.sussex.nj.us/cn/webpage.cfm?tpid=1557>
- NJ Department of Health - <https://www.nj.gov/health/>

Superintendent Summary: Response to Flu and Covid-19

Ongoing - Daily sanitizing of school building and classrooms

January 2020 - Notice to parents about FLU procedures

March 2020

- NJDOE Guidance on “home instruction” for health-related closings- March 5th DOE Broadcast
- School Leadership Team Meeting for emergency preparedness
- NJLINCS Health Alert System
- Parent Letter about COVID-19 sent 3/10/2020
- Handwashing reinforcement to students
- Visual supports and reminders hung in the building



Continuity of Operations

Montague Township School District will continue to provide services until the NJ Department of Health- Sussex County directs the school district to close.

Communication: Administrative Team

- In case of a mandated school closing, Montague Township School District will have a daily phone call with the Sussex County Department of Health.
- All communication will be corresponded with the Board of Education through email notification.
- Parents will be notified through All Call Alerts.
- The Montague Township School District webpage will be updated with information.
- The Montague Township School District Facebook pages will post updates as necessary.
- The Montague Township School District Twitter account will post updates as necessary.

Continuity of Business Operations

- Essential employees will be determined by the Superintendent as necessary.
- Payroll operation will continue as scheduled. If the Business Office is closed, payroll operation can continue through VPN access.

Instruction- Throughout the Closing

- Flexible learning opportunities will be provided to all students from PreK-8th.
- If a school closure is ordered by the New Jersey Department of Health, or if illness requires the school to close, plans may include extending the school year, which may include Saturdays or scheduled holidays. These days will be fulfilled by receiving assignments at home, using technology or traditional lessons/activities.
- Teachers will provide assignments to students through technology and/or traditional paper copies of lessons/activities. Grades will be ascertained through technology and/or completion & return of work upon school reopening.
- Student IEP goals and objectives will be met through differentiated assignments with required accommodations/modifications designed to meet student learning needs.



Food Services- Throughout the Closing

- Breakfast and Lunch will be available for pickup at the cafeteria entrance from 9-11 am Monday (Deliveries will be made as necessary)
- Staffing will be determined as needed

List of Essential Employees by Category	Role of Employee	Duties/ Work Stream	How Many Essential Employees Per Category	Teachers Instruction Hours per day via remote learning
Administration	Overseeing school operations	Interacting with staff, students, community members, handling deliveries and mail.	5	4 hours per day
Maintenance	Maintaining buildings	Maintaining building and equipment	1	
Custodial	Cleaning of buildings	Maintaining the cleanliness of buildings	3	
Technology	Technology support	Managing technology, access and updates, student access	1	
Food Service Personnel	Meal service	Preparing meals	3	
Agriculture Teacher	Maintain Agriculture program	Care for live animals	1	
Guidance Counselor/Social Worker	Student Well being	Social Services Food Coordination	1	