



Brian T. Woods, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Dear Northside family,

Given recent media coverage around the coronavirus, I want to assure you that Northside ISD is keeping track of this situation through proven and trustworthy sources: our local health department, the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). **While health officials believe the risk to our school community is low, I want to assure you that NISD is closely monitoring this matter.**

We are currently following health officials recommended steps to protect against coronavirus in the same way we would prevent the spread of other respiratory illnesses like the flu. Our teachers, school nurses, and staff are working carefully to encourage the simple and effective habits of frequent hand-washing, covering every cough or sneeze, and cleaning classroom tables/surfaces frequently. NISD schools utilize specialized electrostatic sprayers to sanitize all surfaces. We also encourage individuals to stay home if they are sick to help avoid the spread of any illness.

Additionally, our District health care providers and other staff are utilizing screening tools provided by the San Antonio Metropolitan Health District to help identify individuals potentially needing further medical follow up. A protocol is in place that would ensure local health officials are engaged.

We are aware of the recent call for schools to be prepared in the event of closures. While we do not anticipate closures of schools, we will have a plan in place to notify parents and the community in the unlikely event this happens. Currently, we are reviewing possible options for alternative instruction in the event of school closures.

While a new type of illness can be scary, we can protect our students, staff, and the broader community by using simple everyday actions that protect people from other types of respiratory viruses. This is important not just to help prevent the spread of coronavirus, but to help prevent the spread of other infections that can lead to illness.

For updated information on the coronavirus, please visit:
<https://www.sanantonio.gov/Health/News/Alerts/CoronaVirus>

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B.T. Woods', is written over a faint, larger version of the signature.

Brian Woods, Ed.D.
Superintendent