

Weld Re-9 School District Coronavirus Response

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that have been associated with respiratory illness such as fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Illness is spread through coughing or sneezing, much like the flu. Some coronaviruses are common and regularly cause respiratory illness in the U.S. in the fall and winter. In December of 2019, a novel (new) coronavirus originated in China. The disease caused by this virus has been named COVID-19. (Source: Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment)

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) as well as local and state health departments are closely monitoring cases of COVID-19. The Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE) has a website dedicated to providing factual information which can be accessed at <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/2019-novel-coronavirus>. Information is updated frequently on this page.

We encourage families to discuss and promote the following guidelines to prevent the spread of illness:

- Wash your hands with soap and water frequently
- In the absence of soap and water, use hand sanitizer
- Avoid touching your face
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your arm
- Clean frequently touched surfaces and objects
- Stay home if you are sick
- Develop a plan for picking up your child and keeping them home if they become ill

The Weld Re-9 School District is monitoring information provided by the Weld County Department of Public Health & Environment, CDPHE, CDC, and the Colorado Department of Education (CDE). We will continue to review attendance rates and illness rates at each of our schools. Please refer to our school district website for information, including the “How Sick is Too Sick” document which provides guidelines regarding when children should stay home from school.