



Public Schools of Plainfield

New Jersey

Office of the Superintendent of Schools

Diana Mitchell, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

1200 Myrtle Avenue

Plainfield, NJ 07063

(908) 731-4335 Fax: (908) 731-4336

dmitchell@plainfield.k12.nj.us

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Dear Members of the Plainfield Public Schools Community:

The health, safety, and well-being of our school community is the top priority of the Plainfield Board of Education, administration, faculty, and staff. We are taking precautionary steps to ensure a safe and healthy environment for all of our students and staff regarding the coronavirus.

- On the District's website, we have posted information on the coronavirus from the New Jersey Department of Health and Human Services (NJDHHS) and New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE). We will keep that information updated as we receive additional guidance.
- The District has policies in place to address the well-being of all students and staff: Policy 5141 addresses preparation for a pandemic flu outbreak and Policy 5141.2 addresses control of contagious diseases or conditions.
- Our school's physician and Supervisor of Nursing is collaborating with the Plainfield Health Department to ensure we are following the proper guidelines. In our schools, school nurses have been instructed to enforce good hand-washing techniques with students and staff, as they do every flu season.
- Our facilities personnel are diligently cleaning surfaces and items that are more likely to have frequent touch contact throughout the school day, which is a standard practice particularly during the flu season.
- An order has been placed for additional masks to be worn by students and/or staff exhibiting signs or symptoms of the flu. Persons exhibiting symptoms will be isolated and kept in the nurse's office until they are sent home. All staff and/or students who are diagnosed with any flu symptom will need medical clearance to return to school/work per the District's policy.

We are monitoring all available information, communicating regularly with the Plainfield Department of Health, the New Jersey Department of Education, and taking all necessary precautions. We will update you with information as it becomes necessary and available. Please direct any specific building questions to your child's school nurse.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends the following everyday preventive actions to help control the spread of all respiratory viruses:

1. 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.
2. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
3. Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
4. Stay home when you are sick, and keep your children home from school when they are sick.
5. Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
6. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

For additional information, please visit the New Jersey Department of Health's website: <https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Diana Mitchell", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Diana Mitchell, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools