



***Bernadette Bettencourt, RN MSN CSN PHN***  
***Director of Comprehensive Health Services***  
***Health Services Department***  
975 N. D. Street  
Stockton, CA 95206  
(209) 933-7060

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March 10, 2020

SUPERINTENDENT  
John E. Deasy, Ph.D.

Dear SUSD families and community,

San Joaquin County Public Health Services (PHS) informed us today of the first laboratory-confirmed case of Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) in San Joaquin County. According to PHS, this individual was a passenger on the Grand Princess cruise ship; however, they were not on the cruise that is currently disembarking in Oakland.

As COVID-19 concerns continue to be a priority, we want to keep you updated on our plans for keeping our schools, students and employees safe. Stockton Unified School District is working closely with Public Health officials and the San Joaquin County Office of Education, and we will continue to provide families with new information when appropriate.

At this time, schools remain open and we continue working to prevent the spread of COVID-19. While the progression of COVID-19 is still evolving, the CDC is reporting that for the general public, the immediate health risk from COVID-19 is considered low.

The district activated the lowest level of the emergency response plan last week to proactively begin preventative measures in our schools. In addition to increased surveillance of flu-like symptoms in our students and staff, we implemented sanitation procedures to limit and slow the spread of all respiratory virus infections in our schools. We continue to clean and sanitize classrooms, restrooms, offices, common area spaces, and frequently touched surfaces using state-recommended cleaning materials. Our Transportation Department is also taking extra cleaning precautions, increasing daily cleaning and sanitizing of buses.

We encourage all students, staff, and families to follow the recommended guidelines from the California Department of Public Health to protect themselves and those around them from any virus including respiratory viruses like COVID-19. Please review these with your family:

- Cover mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing.
- Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay away from work, school or other people if you become sick with respiratory symptoms like fever and cough.

We want to assure you that we are closely monitoring the situation in cooperation with local and state officials and are committed to the safety of our students, staff and community. We will continue to update our webpage at [www.stocktonusd.net/coronavirus](http://www.stocktonusd.net/coronavirus) with new announcements and resources.