

LCPS and COVID-19

The safety and well-being of all students and staff members is Loudoun County Public Schools' highest priority. We are monitoring the situation regarding the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) very closely, and are in regular communication with the Loudoun County Health Department to be sure we have access to the latest information and recommendations from federal, state and local authorities.

According to the [Virginia Department of Health](http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/surveillance-and-investigation/novel-coronavirus/) (<http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/surveillance-and-investigation/novel-coronavirus/>), there have been no reported cases of COVID-19 in Virginia.

Current guidance from the [Loudoun County Health Department](https://www.loudoun.gov/health) (<https://www.loudoun.gov/health>) and the [U.S. Centers for Disease Control](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/summary.html) (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/summary.html>) (CDC) says that the hygiene practices recommended to combat the spread of influenza and other common seasonal illnesses – keeping sick children home (adults who are ill should stay home too), frequent handwashing, covering your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze, and avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth – are also appropriate for protecting against the spread of the COVID-19 virus. LCPS distributed these [guidelines](https://www.lcps.org/cms/lib/VA01000195/Centricity/Domain/28226/Flu_Fact_Sheet.pdf) (https://www.lcps.org/cms/lib/VA01000195/Centricity/Domain/28226/Flu_Fact_Sheet.pdf) to parents and guardians in [December](https://www.lcps.org/cms/lib/VA01000195/Centricity/Domain/28226/SHS_General_Parent_Letter_Influenza.pdf) (https://www.lcps.org/cms/lib/VA01000195/Centricity/Domain/28226/SHS_General_Parent_Letter_Influenza.pdf), and they are available today on the [LCPS Student Health Service's](https://www.lcps.org/Page/226309) (<https://www.lcps.org/Page/226309>) webpage. The CDC has [indicated](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/preparing-communities.html) (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/preparing-communities.html>) that it is preparing additional guidelines for K-12 schools, and LCPS looks forward to receiving and applying the updated guidance when it is available.

Loudoun County Public Schools cleans schools and other facilities on a daily basis, including cleaning all “high touch” surfaces (doors, door knobs, desks, push plates) to maintain a clean, safe environment.

In addition to local efforts, LCPS is closely monitoring the health status and [federal recommendations for travel](https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html/) (<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html/>) to countries to be visited by several planned foreign-study trips, as well as the home countries of students who are expected to visit LCPS schools through the Youth International Leadership Conference. LCPS will continue to review those plans with the most current information in mind, and advise families as soon as possible if any changes are made to those plans.

We will continue to provide information to the LCPS community as additional guidance is shared by public health authorities. In addition, the [Centers for Disease Control](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html) (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>) is providing regular updates on a variety of topics related to the COVID-19 virus, including international travel alerts and status updates about federal efforts.