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www.everettsd.org

March 2, 2020 | email message sent to school families and staff

Good evening,

As many of you are aware, the Snohomish Health District notified us last Friday, February 28 that a student at Jackson High School had tested positive for COVID-19 (Coronavirus). We have been communicating with our families and staff since we found out and are taking measures to help prevent the spread of the virus.

District leadership is in constant contact with Snohomish Health District and Department of Health and we are following their guidance on the appropriate response. All the medical experts are reiterating there is no need to avoid public gatherings unless you yourself are sick and to encourage people to use good hand hygiene. Our custodial and maintenance staff have been working tirelessly to ensure our school environments are clean and disinfected. All schools will be open tomorrow.

Responses to date include:

- The student who tested positive, as well as their close contacts and family are under quarantine per the Snohomish Health District.
- Closed Jackson High School on Monday, March 2 for three-day cleaning and disinfecting beginning Friday evening, February 28.
- Cleaning and disinfecting at Heatherwood and Gateway Middle Schools.
- Cleaning and disinfecting buses that deliver students to Jackson High School.
- Relocated weekend events scheduled at Jackson High School.
- Delayed high school athletic tryouts until Tuesday, March 3.
- Moved the SAT scheduled at Jackson High on March 4 to April 14.

All district schools are receiving extra cleaning supplies and hand sanitizer.

Although we are actively responding to this public health issue, we are still in the classroom where teaching and learning continue. Our staff is doing an incredible job remaining calm, staying positive and keeping up normal daily school routines as much as possible so our kids can feel safe and focused on learning.

If you are concerned about symptoms or possible exposure, stay home and contact your health care provider. As with all absences, you will need to contact the school and send a note within 30 days of returning to school.

Also, the Washington State Department of Health has established a hotline with a live person to address questions from the public. If you have questions about what is happening in Washington state, how the virus is spread and what to do if you have symptoms, please call the WSDOH hotline at 1-800-525-0127 and press #.

For the most up to date information on how Everett Public Schools is responding to the Coronavirus, please visit our website (everettsd.org) where we update FAQs daily. Thank you for your support as we continue to respond to this worldwide threat and do all we can to keep our students and staff safe.

Everett Public Schools