

BLACKLICK VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT
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Blacklick Valley Families:

I would like to take the time to update all in regards to Blacklick Valley School District's efforts concerning the COVID-19 virus. As you are aware, the district takes our students' health/wellbeing and safety very seriously and has been monitoring the spread and response to the virus. At this point, our area has not been impacted by any known cases of the virus. However, intensive preparation and prevention are not only appropriate but imperative. **The district's administration and school nurse has been staying up to date on all the latest press releases and advice from the CDC, Pennsylvania Department of Health, Pennsylvania Department of Education, and the Governor's Office.** All of the current recommendations, from these departments, are to ensure that everyone is thoroughly washing their hands, sneezing and coughing into a tissue or elbow when appropriate, and staying home when one has a fever or generally not feeling well.

At Blacklick Valley, we have also taken the additional steps to be proactive. Recently, the nurse has conducted lessons with students on proper hand washing and our School Wide Positive Behavior team has implemented a wellness component into their programming. In addition to the school wide educational components, I ask all parents to speak with their children in regards to their lessons, and reinforce the practices of good hygiene in prevention of illness. Additionally, the administration has met and discussed cleaning with our maintenance and housekeeping crews and have decided to bring in an outside cleaning company to assist with the daily sanitization of the schools to ensure that we can give more attention to disinfecting all areas more thoroughly.

As more information becomes available, I will keep you updated through our web page, call system and communications through letters to homes. At this point, there are no plans to for any COVID-19 related school closings locally, but as the situation evolves, we will update you on any changes to that status.

For quality and up-to-date information, we highly encourage families to visit the following websites for more information:

- <https://www.health.pa.gov>
- <https://www.ede.gov/coronavirus/2019>

Please remember that I take the safety of our children very seriously and will keep you updated and informed as we receive more information from the experts involved. Thank you for your patience and understanding!

Sincerely,

William P. Kanich
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Superintendent
Blacklick Valley School District

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER