

March 4, 2020

Homewood Families,

We wanted to provide information on Homewood City Schools' efforts to ensure the health and safety of our students and staff members as discussions of the [COVID-19 Coronavirus](#) have increased in our nation. While there are no current cases of the virus in Alabama, Homewood City Schools is monitoring the Coronavirus daily and following all guidelines from the Jefferson County Department of Health (JCDH), Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH), Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE), and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

Prior to the cold and flu season, Homewood City Schools administrators meet with our custodial staff to ensure we are continuing to work diligently to keep our schools disinfected. Our nurses also talk with our teachers on the signs and symptoms to look for during the cold season, and our teachers discuss the best ways to prevent the spread of germs with our students.

Each year, our schools meet to discuss our health practices with our administrators and nurses, which applies during the cold and flu season or any other outbreak of illness:

- Keep surfaces, bathrooms, water fountains, doorknobs, etc., clean.
- Frequent and thorough hand washing with soap and warm, running water is our best line of defense against the spread of germs.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth. Germs are often spread when a person touches a surface or object that is contaminated with germs and then touches his or her eyes, nose, or mouth.
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, and throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.
- If students, faculty, or staff members have a fever, they should remain at home until they are fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-lowering medications. This helps to prevent the spreading of illnesses to others.

If your family is traveling for Spring Break, the ADPH recommends checking the [CDC's Travelers' Health website](#) to stay abreast of the latest alerts and bulletins.

Homewood City Schools will continue to work closely with our state and local partners to ensure we are prepared if cases arise in Alabama. Please continue to remind your children to use the preventative measures above to prevent the spread of germs. Together, we can offer a clean and healthy environment for your children and limit the spread of germs.

Sincerely,  
Homewood City Schools

[Additional Information from the CDC: Frequently Asked Questions  
in English, Spanish and Chinese](#)