

# North Branch Area Schools

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**James D. Fish**  
Superintendent

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North Branch Families —

As of this writing, there are two confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Michigan — one in Oakland County and another in Wayne County. In order to assist local governments in their response to the virus, Governor Gretchen Whitmer has declared a State of Emergency.

Because the Coronavirus which causes COVID-19 is new, it presents a significant challenge to public health across the globe. Unlike the flu, there is no vaccine, natural immunity or specific antiviral treatment for COVID-19.

Please be assured that the District is working collaboratively with local government and public health agencies, as well as the Lapeer ISD, to ensure implementation of prevention and mitigation measures as they are warranted. We understand that there are a lot of questions regarding potential school closures as a result of COVID-19. At this time, we are waiting for state-level guidance from the Michigan Department of Education and the Governor's Office regarding any potential closures and/or activity cancellations. That said, we will ultimately do what we believe is best for students if more urgent action is required.

In the interim, the District will undertake common sense measures in order to prevent or slow the spread of COVID-19, including sanitization procedures in our buildings. Even though COVID-19 is caused by a new and different virus than Influenza, many of the symptoms are the same or similar (fever, cough and shortness of breath). In addition, many of the same precautions practiced during flu season also apply to COVID-19:

- *Avoid contact with people who are sick.*
- *Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue and throw it away (or use the crook of the elbow).*
- *Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces like door knobs and keyboards.*
- *Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.*
- *If your student is sick, keep them home and have them examined by a medical professional.*
- *Wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds (or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol content)*

As this is an evolving situation, we will continue to keep you informed of any changes that occur in the coming days and weeks. Additionally, with Spring Break approaching, we are working on protocols for students and staff who have domestic or international travel plans.

For more information, visit [www.nbbroncos.net](http://www.nbbroncos.net) or the Centers for Disease Control at [Coronavirus.gov](http://Coronavirus.gov).

Regards,



Jim Fish  
Superintendent