



RUSD SUPERINTENDENT DR. AVILA'S LETTER ADDRESSING CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) MARCH 9, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians of the Rialto Unified School District:

As you know, the recent international news coverage of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) has prompted dialogues and inquiries, including from our community, raising questions about the health, wellness and safety of our students and staff members in our District. Officials from our District have been working closely in obtaining the latest updates by the San Bernardino County Department of Health regarding the COVID-19. We want to reassure you that the safety and well-being of students and staff are our main focus.

Currently, there are no officially confirmed cases of Coronavirus at any RUSD schools/support sites or within San Bernardino County. The San Bernardino County Department of Public Health (CDPH) has determined that the region is at a low risk at this time. We are prepared to initiate appropriate emergency procedures, should there be the need to do so. We will continue to work with outside agencies, our Board of Education, and school site leaders to coordinate information to determine an appropriate response.

The COVID-19 spreads between people who are in close contact with one another, via coughing or sneezing. It may also be spread by touching a surface or object with the virus on it. The same good health habits that prevent other viruses, such as the flu, also prevent the spread of COVID-19 and decrease the risk of being ill. Please be aware and try to practice these tips:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer, with 60% alcohol, if soap and water are not available.
- Cough into a tissue or your elbow or sleeve (not your hand), then throw the tissue away and wash your hands.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid contact with people who are sick and stay home when you are sick, especially if you have a fever.
- Keep students home if they are running a temperature or they report not feeling well or appear weak or ill.
- Consult your healthcare provider if you or your child has health conditions that put you at increased risk.

In an event where there is a confirmed case in any of our RUSD schools, we will communicate to the parents/guardians and staff to make diligent decisions based on factual information provided by our County's Health Department.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation while we ensure that schools in the Rialto Unified School District remain a safe, healthy and nurturing environment for all students and staff.
Respectfully,

Dr. Cuauhtémoc Avila, RUSD Superintendent