



UPPER GRAND DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Martha Rogers

Director of Education & Secretary-Treasurer

Board Office: 500 Victoria Road N. Guelph, ON N1E 6K2

Email: martha.rogers@ugdsb.on.ca

Tel: 519-822-4420 ext. 720 or Toll Free: 1-800-321-4025

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Dear parents and guardians,

We have received some questions from parents regarding the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) and wanted to provide families with information from the health authorities. As with all public health matters, the Upper Grand District School Board works closely with Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health and other health agencies to monitor and address concerns, and that is the case with COVID-19.

At this time, health authorities state that **the risk to Ontario residents remains low**. Public health authorities are reminding the public that the best way to reduce the risk of infection is to practice general infection prevention control. This includes:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are ill.
- Stay home when you are ill.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then immediately throw the tissue in the garbage and wash your hands.
- If you don't have a tissue, sneeze or cough into your sleeve or arm.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Families who are planning on travelling are encouraged to visit the Public Health Agency of Canada's website for travel advice: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/latest-travel-health-advice.html>

We will continue to take steps to ensure that we are as prepared as we can be, including sharing reminders about infection prevention practices, reminding students, staff and volunteers to stay home when they are ill, doing enhanced cleaning at schools, ordering additional hand sanitizer for schools and classrooms, monitoring absenteeism and reporting absences to Public Health, and communicating information on a dedicated webpage at <https://www.ugdsb.ca/community/coronavirus/>.

If you have questions about COVID-19, please contact Public Health through its dedicated website <https://www.wdgpulichealth.ca/your-health/novel-coronavirus-covid-19> or call centre (1-800-265-7293 ext. 7006).

The health and safety of all students, staff and school communities is our top priority.

Sincerely,

Martha Rogers
Director of Education & Secretary-Treasurer

Upper Grand District School Board

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