

District Patrons:

Today all of the K-8 superintendents in Howell County met in a collaborative effort to discuss future health issues related to COVID-19 (Coronavirus). This was done as a precautionary action to develop plans for our students in the event that it affects our community. Currently we are all in contact with the Howell County Health Department on a weekly basis and will continue to communicate with them until this virus stops spreading. If this virus begins to affect our county we will react accordingly in an effort to keep our community and our families as safe as possible. In general, there are steps that should be taken that will reduce the transmission of all viruses. Listed below are some steps that you can take to assist us in that process.

CDC recommendations. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) always recommends the following preventative actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

Our districts are taking additional steps to clean and disinfect areas, particularly those in high traffic areas. We will continue to do so in an effort to minimize the risk of the spread of any viruses. When your child/children are ill or have a fever, please follow your district's protocol by keeping your child home for **a minimum of 24 hours** after their fever has subsided without fever reducing medication. We thank you in advance for your support in our endeavor to keep our community as healthy as possible.

Sincerely,

Dr. Melonie Bunn  
Superintendent  
Richards R-V School District