



Ambridge Area School District

Central Administration Office • 901 Duss Ave. • Ambridge, PA 15003 • 724-266-2833 • 724-266-3981 fax

L. Douglas McCausland

Director of District Operations

Keith Bielby

Business Manager

L. Joan Welter, Ed.D.

Superintendent of Schools

Barry J. King

Substitute Superintendent
Director of Academic Affairs

Lee Myford, Ed.D.

Director of Pupil Services

March 6, 2020

Dear Ambridge Area School District Parents/Guardians and Staff:

As you are already aware, we are in the middle of cold and flu season, and the news is constantly reporting on the Coronavirus, which appears to be making its way around the world. While the news about the Coronavirus changes on a daily basis, this letter is to provide you with an update regarding how the Ambridge Area School District plans to address this, as well as to provide you with some helpful information for how you can keep your family healthy.

Our Administrative Team has been monitoring the situation and following the recommendations/guidelines put forth by the CDC, the Pennsylvania Department of Health and the Allegheny County Health Department.

From the meetings and webinars we have attended with local health officials, we are told that the risk of infection to the general public is low. That being said, we are taking the situation seriously and implementing our prevention precautions that closely mirror what we do routinely during cold and flu season.

The Coronavirus is spread much like the common cold or flu—transmitted through the air by coughing or sneezing, through close contact, or by touching an object or surface containing the virus. To that end, our Facilities Department has met with third party cleaning supply experts to ensure that we have stocked the recommended safe products for use in all of our facilities, and are using them correctly. We have instructed our custodians to be hyper-vigilant with their cleaning practices, with an emphasis on touch surfaces—door knobs, light switches, desks, faucets, etc. We commend them for their diligent efforts to keep our schools clean and safe.

We are continually updating our website at:

www.ambridge.k12.pa.us with information from the CDC, PA Department of Health and Beaver County Health Department, and encourage you to refer to this resource for fact sheets, frequently asked questions, and other information about the Coronavirus.

The most important thing you can do is to stay home if you are experiencing cold or flu symptoms, including fever, vomiting (even once), diarrhea, chills, feelings of fatigue, discomfort; weakness or muscle aches, cough, nasal congestion and frequent nose blowing.

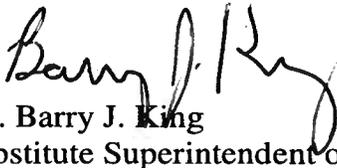
The CDC recommends the following to prevent catching the flu and cold, please practice the following good hygiene habits:

- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds—especially after going to the bathroom, before eating and after blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick. The CDC recommends that individuals remain home for a minimum of 24 hours after a fever is gone.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue then throw the tissue in the trash. Cough or sneeze into the crook of your elbow if you do not have a tissue.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Take any prescribed anti-viral medications as instructed.

Any specific health concerns should be directed to your family physician or healthcare provider. Please also contact your student's school nurse if your child has been diagnosed with a doctor-confirmed case of influenza.

In the event that the situation changes, we will be back in touch with you to provide you with updated information. We thank you for your assistance in doing everything possible to keep our schools healthy places for learning.

Sincerely,



Mr. Barry J. King
Substitute Superintendent of Schools