



## Frequently Asked Questions about Coronavirus Updated as of March 12, 2020 (3:00 p.m.)

### 1. What is WJUSD doing about the Coronavirus?

We are continuing to closely monitor the Coronavirus (also called Novel Coronavirus or COVID-19) situation. Woodland Joint Unified School District's leadership team is working with Yolo County Health Department, Yolo County Office of Education, other school districts, and other partners to closely monitor the situation and establish and communicate protocols in the event that Coronavirus does spread in our area.

### 2. I have heard that certain school events have been cancelled. Is that true?

Yes. On March 11, 2020 the school board passed resolution 42-20 limiting student and adult activities. The resolution identifies those activities as follows:

1. We are recommending social distancing strategies be used beginning 9:00 PM on Friday, March 13, 2020 and continuing through April 30, 2020 at 9:00 PM. *This start time will allow for communication with those impacted by this decision.*
2. Cancel trips, events or public gatherings on a case-by-case basis with the exception of those events occurring on WJUSD campuses involving only WJUSD students and where group sizes do not exceed those of a typical classroom at the school.
3. Cancel rental/use of district facilities by outside agencies or vendors for indoor or outdoor use on a case-by-case basis.
4. Athletic events (practice and games), Jr. and Sr. Prom, and musical performances will continue, however, audience participation shall be significantly reduced.

***Please note: Sporting event restrictions may be changed if additional guidance and/or restrictions are provided by CIF and/or the Yolo County Health Department.***

### **Additional Guidelines (as of March 12, 2020)**

#### For Students and Community

- Junior and Senior Proms have **not** been canceled. All other school dances will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- Performances (music, theatre, etc.) for all grade levels will be held in the largest appropriate venue on campus to promote increased social distancing. Ticketing and/or admission protocols including venue capacity determinations will be made by school administrators.

- Student assemblies scheduled through April 30 are canceled or will be modified by school administrators to allow for social distancing measures.
- The parent education events hosted by the Community and Family Engagement staff and scheduled through April 30 will be canceled.
- Community members should contact their school administrators regarding scheduled parent education and information events at individual school sites.
- School Open House events scheduled through April 30 will be canceled. School administrators will determine if rescheduling these events is feasible.
- Staff travel for conferences is canceled through April 30.
- Professional learning events will be limited and determined on a case-by-case basis by the WJUSD Educational Services staff.

### **3. Who should I contact with general questions, requests, and suggestions?**

If you have specific information regarding the health of a child or adult, please contact your school site immediately. District staff is dedicating their time to planning and working with agencies proactively. Share any other concerns with your school administrator.

### **4. What can I do to keep myself and my child healthy?**

General reminders for staying healthy during the cold and flu season:

If your child is sick, please keep them home from school. To help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses, including the Coronavirus and Flu, follow these important tips:

- Wash your hands frequently 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.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Individuals with chronic health issues and/or individuals experiencing severe symptoms should be evaluated by a medical professional.
- Get flu vaccine every year

In addition, Yolo County Health Department recently updated steps to address the COVID-19 outbreak:

- Keep students home if temperature is above 100.0 F (37.8 C) or they report not feeling well, appear weak or ill.
- Consult your health care provider if you or your child has special health conditions that put you at increased risk.
- ***Everyone*** should stay home if sick until they have had no fever, cough or other respiratory symptoms for at least 72 hours after symptoms resolve or 7 days after symptoms began, whichever is longer.
- Individuals with cold-like symptoms should manage their symptoms at home with over-the-counter drugs whenever possible, regardless of whether they have a cold, the flu, or COVID-19.
- Individuals who develop difficulty breathing, feel extremely tired, or were feeling better but then feel a lot worse should call their health care provider. If they will be going to the provider's office or urgent care center, they should call ahead so that the health care provider can be prepared to take care of them.
- People should only call 911 or go to an emergency department if they believe that their life is in imminent danger. Other emergencies are still occurring, and emergency resources must be available to address all of them, not just COVID-19.

## **5. What are you doing about hand washing in school?**

In an effort to continue to prevent the transmission of germs, our expectation is that students are provided an opportunity to wash their hands before lunch and throughout the day using the following steps:

1. Wet your hands with clean, running water (warm or cold), turn off the tap, and apply soap.
2. Lather your hands by rubbing them together with the soap. Lather the backs of your hands, between your fingers, and under your nails.
3. Scrub your hands for at least 20 seconds. Need a timer? Hum the "Happy Birthday" song from beginning to end twice.
4. Rinse your hands well under clean, running water.
5. Dry your hands using a clean towel or air dry them.

## **6. Are additional cleaning/disinfecting measures in place?**

Ensuring that we keep students and school learning environments safe and clean is a top priority. The District has a tiered plan to respond to combat the spread of the flu and possible Coronavirus in our schools with the use of proper cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting agents.

## **7. Are alcohol-based hand sanitizers allowed in WJUSD schools?**

Yes. For more details from the California Department of Education please [visit their website](#).

**8. What if I want to keep my student home as a precaution against Coronavirus/COVID-19? Will the absence(s) be excused?**

Unless your child is currently sick or has a Doctor's note excusing them from school for medical reasons, the absence is considered unexcused. California Education Code determines what type of absences are considered excused versus unexcused and what conditions must be met to consider an absence excused. For additional information on attendance, view the [California Education Code](#) as it relates to Attendance. A student who will be out for five days or more should contact their school regarding signing up for Short-Term Independent Study.

**9. My student has flu-like symptoms, what should I do?**

First, you should contact your child's physician and inform them of the illness. Second, call your child's school to inform them of the absence. Third, consider keeping siblings home from school.

**10. My child has a compromised immune system. Should I send them to school?**

Please consult your medical provider for guidance.

**11. Will families be notified if a WJUSD staff member or student tests positive for Coronavirus/COVID-19?**

We will follow notification guidelines from the Yolo County Health Department should WJUSD receive notice of any staff or student testing positive to COVID-19. Please know that the District is committed to maintaining the privacy of our students and staff. Our schools will work with students and families under mandatory or self-quarantine with sensitivity and confidentiality.

**12. Do I have to stay off campus if I think I have been exposed to COVID-19?**

Because information is changing rapidly, we share this important update from Yolo County Health Department on the guidance for exposed persons. According to Yolo County Health Department press release, an exposed person should self-monitor for respiratory symptoms and fever. If they develop symptoms, they should stay home in order to protect those who are well – again, for 72 hours after symptoms resolve or 7 days after symptoms began, whichever is longer.

**13. What if my family is traveling overseas for Spring Break?**

As a reminder, if WJUSD families travel to any affected international locations over the upcoming Spring Break, they will be subject to the quarantine guidelines and any new guidelines that may be implemented. Check the [CDC website](#) for more information about affected locations and international travel health notices.

#### **14. Are schools going to close due to Coronavirus/COVID-19?**

At this time, the Yolo County Health Department and WJUSD are **not recommending** closing schools. If a staff member or student in a specific school is confirmed to have COVID-19, the Superintendent and local public health officials will consider, based on the specific facts and circumstances of that case, whether closure of that school is warranted. The Yolo County Health Department is not recommending school closures at this time because individuals under 18 years of age have not been shown to be a high-risk group for serious illness from this virus. Should the Yolo County Health Department and Superintendent determine a school closure is warranted, the duration is likely to be the length of time needed to conduct cleaning protocols and determine readmission criteria.

#### **15. Who will make a decision to close schools?**

If an outbreak occurs, and school closures are recommended or ordered, decisions will be made following discussions between the District and Yolo County Health Department. We will also consider guidance from the California Department of Education.

#### **16. Who should I contact if I have more questions?**

We will continue to keep our students, staff and families informed as we receive guidance from public health officials. If you have any questions, please continue to visit our website.

Thank you.