



CUYAHOGA HEIGHTS SCHOOL DISTRICT

DISCOVER YOUR NEW HEIGHTS

TOM TALKS | MARCH 13, 2020



WHAT TO EXPECT OVER THE NEXT THREE WEEKS

As you know, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine has ordered all kindergarten through 12th grade schools to close for a period of several weeks due to the COVID-19 crisis.

Beginning at the conclusion of the school day on Monday, March 16,

Cuyahoga Heights Schools will close to students through Friday, April 3.

Please note that while this order includes all public, community, and private K-12 schools in the state, it does not at this time apply to Ohio's childcare system - such as daycare centers and home-based childcare providers. However, during today's press conference, the Governor did allude to parents considering what they will do if daycares must close.

In anticipation of this, our wonderful PTO has taken it upon themselves to develop a childcare plan for Cuyahoga Heights families. I don't have details of that plan to share yet, but when it is ready it will be shared widely. My heartfelt thanks to the PTO for this tremendous effort in support of our students and families.

During this extended period of closure, the Cuyahoga Heights Schools will continue to provide education through alternative means. Recommendations from the State are changing rapidly, and we will provide updates as they occur on our website at cuyhts.org.

While our home learning plan is in development, I wanted to be sure you were aware of the following:

- **WHAT TO EXPECT ON MONDAY** | We will have school with students on Monday. Our focus will be to provide our students with as much instruction surrounding accessing online resources as possible. We will also use this time to send home materials for students who do not have online access at home. Our focus Monday is to best help our students when we are not going to be with them, rather than teaching content aligned to state standards, etc.
- **WHAT HOME LEARNING WILL LOOK LIKE** | Each teacher, team, or content area is creating a Google Classroom with resources, lessons, etc. that can be accessed by students and parents during this mandatory time off. Please remind your student that school rules still apply while they are learning from home.
- **HOMES WITHOUT COMPUTERS** | Please notify your child's principal if a computer is needed in your home. We have a limited amount of hardware for this purpose, but we will do all we can to get your child what he or she needs during this crisis.
- **SPRING BREAK** | The week of Spring Break will still be considered time off, with a scheduled break in learning occurring March 23 - 27.
- **SCHOOL PLAY ALADDIN** | The play has been cancelled.
- **CHEERLEADING TRYOUTS** | Cheerleading tryouts that were scheduled for this Saturday are still "on."
- **WHAT TO EXPECT BEGINNING TUESDAY** | Once school "closes" on Monday afternoon, all before and after school activities for the following three weeks are canceled including all on- or off-campus athletic contests, practices, REACH, etc.
- **WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THE THREE WEEKS** | The current plan calls for students and staff to return to school on Monday, April 6. Please note that this is subject to change.

As you know, things are changing frequently, so be prepared to have status changes at any time. I urge you to check the District website frequently for updates over the weekend and in the weeks ahead.

We will be sure to keep you informed.

Go Redskins!

~ Tom Evans

Answers to FAQ about COVID-19

What is coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)?

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness that can spread from person to person. The virus that causes COVID-19 is a novel coronavirus that was first identified during an investigation into an outbreak in Wuhan, China.

Can people in the U.S. get COVID-19?

COVID-19 is spreading from person to person in China, and limited spread among close contacts has been detected in some countries outside China, including the United States. At this time, however, this virus is NOT currently spreading in communities in the United States. Right now, the greatest risk of infection is for people in China or people who have traveled to China. Risk of infection is dependent on exposure. Close contacts of people who are infected are at greater risk of exposure, for example health care workers and close contacts of people who are infected with the virus that causes COVID-19. CDC continues to closely monitor the situation.

Have there been cases of COVID-19 in the U.S.?

Yes. The first case of COVID-19 in the United States was reported on January 21, 2020. The current count of cases of COVID-19 in the United States is available on the CDC's webpage at this link.

How does COVID-19 spread?

The virus that causes COVID-19 probably emerged from an animal source, but now it seems to be spreading from person to person. It's important to note that person-to-person spread can happen on a continuum. Some diseases are highly contagious (like measles), while other diseases are less so. At this time, it's unclear how easily or sustainably the virus that causes COVID-19 is spreading between people. Learn what is known about the spread of newly emerged coronaviruses at this link.

What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

Patients with COVID-19 have had mild to severe respiratory illness with symptoms of:

- fever
- cough
- shortness of breath

What are severe complications from this virus?

Many patients have pneumonia in both lungs.

How can I help protect myself?

The best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19. There are simple everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses. These include:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.

If you are sick, to keep from spreading respiratory illness to others, you should:

- 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.

What should I do if I recently traveled to China and got sick?

If you were in China within the past 14 days and feel sick with fever, cough, or difficulty breathing, you should seek medical care. Call the office of your health care provider before you go, and tell them about your travel and your symptoms. They will give you instructions on how to get care without exposing other people to your illness. While sick, avoid contact with people, don't go out and delay any travel to reduce the possibility of spreading illness to others.

Is there a vaccine?

There is currently no vaccine to protect against COVID-19. The best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed to the virus that causes COVID-19.

Is there a treatment?

There is no specific antiviral treatment for COVID-19. People with COVID-19 can seek medical care to help relieve symptoms.

Learn more at [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov)

Stay Connected with the Cuyahoga Heights Schools!



Cuyahoga Heights Schools | 216-429-5700 | 216-341-3737 | www.cuyhts.org