

RITTMAN EXEMPTED  
VILLAGE SCHOOLS

100 Saurer Street  
Rittman, OH 44270



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The Rittman Exempted Village Schools recognizes there are concerns about the encroaching spread of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) and its potential impact on schools. The best information available from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) can be found on their [website](#). We are also working on other communication measures to keep you abreast of strategies, tools, and recommendations.

At this time, while there is no anti-viral treatment that attacks the Coronavirus, individuals are being treated with pain relievers, cough syrup and other medications for the symptoms. So, it is important that we focus heavily on prevention. As we continue to gather guidance from the CDC on specific strategies for schools, we encourage you to follow common sense strategies for preventing the spread of communicable diseases:

**Individual Level**

- Practice social distancing when ill
  - Do not attend school or public functions when exhibiting cold and flu-like symptoms
  - You must be 24-hour free of a fever before returning to school
- Cough or sneeze into bent elbow or tissue
- Handwashing
  - Keep unwashed hands out of mouths, eyes, etc.
  - Wash or sanitize hands often, especially after using bathroom, before eating, or after coughing, sneezing, or blowing nose
  - When washing hands, use soap and water, rubbing hands together for 20 seconds before rinsing soap and drying hands on clean towel or with air dryer
- Cell phone/laptop/device sanitation
  - Recommended daily cleaning

**Classroom/School Level**

- Review hand-washing techniques with students
- Discourage sharing of food
- Provide hand sanitizer and tissues in each room
- Use recommended cleaning products daily on all high-touch surfaces

**District Level**

- School nurses will be vigilant in monitoring the student body, especially in cases where students exhibit symptoms associated with the virus
- We will stay in contact with the Wayne County Health Department and follow CDC protocols

And remember, while the Coronavirus news is concerning, it is important to point out that there are other respiratory viruses like influenza currently circulating in schools. Fever, coughing and difficulty breathing are symptoms associated with all of them. Therefore, anyone exhibiting these symptoms should not be assumed to have COVID-19.

Myra Pierce RN, BSN, LSN  
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