



SCHOOL CITY OF HOBART

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<http://www.hobart.k12.in.us>

"Building College and Career Ready Brickies"

March 11, 2020

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Dear Community Members,

While COVID-19 is on the minds of everyone, news changes daily. It is important to follow guidelines handed to school districts from the CDC, as well as state and local authorities.

Their tips include:

- Take everyday precautions
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Take everyday preventive actions
 - Clean your hands often
 - Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing, or having been in a public place.
 - If soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
 - To the extent possible, avoid touching high-touch surfaces in public places – elevator buttons, door handles, handrails, handshaking with people, etc. Use a tissue or your sleeve to cover your hand or finger if you must touch something.
 - Wash your hands after touching surfaces in public places.
 - Avoid touching your face, nose, eyes, etc.
 - Clean and disinfect your home to remove germs: practice routine cleaning of frequently touched surfaces (for example: tables, doorknobs, light switches, handles, desks, toilets, faucets, sinks & cell phones)
 - ***Avoid crowds, especially in poorly ventilated spaces. Your risk of exposure to respiratory viruses like COVID-19 may increase in crowded, closed-in settings with little air circulation if there are people in the crowd who are sick.***

At the direction of the Lake County Board of Health, and out of an abundance of caution due to the anticipated crowds expected at upcoming events, we will postpone SpringFest this Friday (3/13/20) and the Aquatic Center dedication on Sunday (3/15/20). There are thousands of people who attend SpringFest. When we dedicated the high school, we had thousands of people attend. Avoiding large crowds at this time is the right thing to do. We will provide plenty of notice when events can be rescheduled.

Beginning Friday, March 13, 2020, all large crowd events will be postponed through the end of Spring Break, Sunday, March 29, 2020. Building Principals will provide notification of postponed events. Yet, if the Board of Health recommends any other actions, we will respond accordingly with their guidelines.

While we have no confirmed cases, there are individuals who may have had indirect contact, meaning a contact of a contact of a contact, who would participate in self-quarantine if required by the Board of Health. Please be patient with us as we make the best decisions for safety as this changes rapidly. We will follow the guidelines and respond swiftly.

Continued on the 2nd page below.

The School City of Hobart does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, sex, color, national origin, religion, age, sexual orientation, marital status, genetic information, or disability, including limited English proficiency.

You can visit the following web sites for updates:

More information about COVID-19 is available at <https://www.in.gov/isdh/28470.htm> or www.cdc.gov/covid-19.

You can also visit the SCOH website: <https://www.hobart.k12.in.us/coronavirus>.

In addition, you can talk to our Brickies about this so that they have assurances and follow good precautions.

How Can I Explain Coronavirus to my Kids?

[Talking with children about COVID-19](#)

Can I Disinfect my School Device? How?

We encourage regular cleaning of your Chromebook.

- Ensure the device is turned off and unplug all cables.
- Clean the Chromebook screen using a small amount of rubbing alcohol on a microfiber cloth.
- Clean the keyboard using rubbing alcohol on a cotton ball.
- Do not use disinfecting liquids directly on the screen, including but not limited to Clorox or alcohol wipes.
- Do not use window cleaners, household cleaners, or abrasives to clean technology.

Thank you for you cooperation and support.

Sincerely,

Peggy Buffington, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools
School City of Hobart