



**BEACON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES**

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**Dr. Matthew Landahl**  
*Superintendent of Schools*

March 9, 2020

**Dear Beacon Community:**

I wanted to reach out to briefly update the community on steps we are taking as a district to prevent the coronavirus/COVID-19. As of this writing, there are no confirmed cases in Dutchess County or in the Beacon City School District.

**Handwashing**

Students have been receiving education about handwashing in a variety of methods. At the elementary level, principals have made minor adjustments to the schedule to allow students more time to wash their hands properly before lunch and at other times of the day. At the secondary level, we are educating and encouraging our students to wash their hands as often as possible. A huge thanks to our School Nurses for helping to lead these efforts.

**Disinfecting Classrooms/Schools/Buses**

Our day custodians and evening custodians are working extra time during the week to make sure that all high touch surfaces get wiped down and disinfected. Our school crews worked last Saturday to thoroughly clean surfaces and will be working Saturdays for the foreseeable future to help keep our school buildings clean. The transportation department is disinfecting buses on a regular basis as well. A huge thanks to our custodial staff and transportation staff for making this happen!

**Communication**

If we have a positive test for COVID-19 with one of our students or employees, I will notify the school community after getting the information from the health department. Per Governor Cuomo today, schools will be closed for a 24 period if a student or employee tests positive to clean and make further decisions. I will determine next actions in consultation with health and government officials.

We have been and will continue to work hard to follow through on preventative measures and communication throughout this time.

Sincerely,

Matthew Landahl  
Superintendent of Schools

ML:vlj