

The Palliser School Division

Palliser Centre

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February 4, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Over the past few days, there has been a great deal of information in the news media regarding the coronavirus – a flu-like, respiratory virus.

The Palliser School Division is in contact with Alberta Health Services. As with all matters of health, we take their direction on what to do in our schools. They are actively monitoring the situation and will respond effectively should there be any cases of the virus in Alberta. The overall risk to Albertans is considered by medical experts to remain low.

Given this information, Palliser Regional Schools is not asking students returning from China to remain home from school. We will continue to follow of our standard processes for any illnesses in our schools.

We would like to remind families of good hygiene practices. Here are some of the recommended ways to avoid the spread of common viruses:

- Make sure everyone in your household washes their hands with soap and water often.
- Avoid touching your face with unwashed hands.
- Use a tissue when you cough or sneeze and throw it away. If you don't have one, sneeze into your sleeve.
- Stay home if you're sick. If your kids are sick, keep them home from school.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces that are used often and shared by everyone in your home.

If you know individuals with specific concerns related to potential exposures or related symptoms, please advise them to call Health Link at 811 for assessment and health advice.

You can find more information related to the coronavirus on the Alberta Health Services and Government of Canada websites.

Sincerely,

Tom Hamer, Associate Superintendent, Learning Services