



# Pecos Independent School District

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March 2, 2020

Dear Parents and Staff,

This letter is to provide information about what the Pecos Independent School District is planning in regards to COVID-19, otherwise known as coronavirus. We take the health of our students and staff very seriously.

You are likely aware of the outbreak of COVID-19 in China and the subsequent confirmed cases in the United States and other countries around the world. It's important to know that the World Health Organization has not yet declared COVID-19 a pandemic; however, PISD encourages families and staff to remain cautious and aware of the status of this virus.

There's currently no cause for concern at the schools, but we'll keep you informed if that should change. To be proactive, PISD will continue, as always, to work closely with the New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH) to ensure that we have an effective preparedness and management system in place. In the event that the virus poses a serious threat to the students and staff at school, PISD will follow the NMDOH guidelines, which could include the closing of schools. Families will be notified in the event of any closures.

According to the [New Mexico Department of Health](#), the flu at this time remains a more significant concern in the state than coronavirus. In order to protect you and your family, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends getting a flu vaccine and taking preventive actions to help stop the spread of germs, such as using [proper handwashing techniques](#) and teaching children to cover coughs and sneezes. If your child is sick, please do not send them to school. As CDC noted, it recommends these same preventive measures for coronavirus.

For the most up to date information from the CDC on COVID-19 visit [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

The following resources are also available with information on COVID-19:

- [New Mexico Department of Health](#) [www.nmhealth.org](http://www.nmhealth.org)
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- [World Health Organization, Coronavirus](#) [www.who.int](http://www.who.int)