



SAN FELIPE DEL RIO CISD

Press Release – March 4, 2020

SFDR CISD GUIDANCE RELATED TO CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19)

As the San Felipe Del Rio Consolidated Independent School District continues to closely monitor news related to the coronavirus, we want to assure you that the health and safety of our students, faculty and staff is our highest priority. To this end, we want to make sure not to expand our energy on misinformation; and instead focus all of our energy in promoting sound practices that can limit any potential spread.

According to the [Texas Department of State Health Services \(TDHSH\)](#), and the [Center for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#), the coronavirus can only be spread through direct contact with a person infected with the coronavirus. (droplets from coughing, touching). To date, no such cases have been reported in Del Rio or Val Verde County. Based on current information, the immediate health risk from COVID-19 to the general American public is considered low at this time.

Today's update provides our students, faculty, staff and community with information and guidance on COVID-19, or the coronavirus.

What can I do to stay healthy?

There is currently no vaccine to prevent COVID-19. The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed, however, CDC recommends everyday prevention measures, including:

- Avoiding close contact with people who are sick
- [**Wash your hands often with soap and water**](#)
 - If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth
- Cover your cough
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using regular household cleaning products
- [**Keep your child at home when he/she is sick**](#) to avoid the spread of germs.

Guidance for International Travel

While we are excited for the experiences that students and faculty may gain from traveling abroad – particularly during the upcoming Spring Break vacation, we remain concerned with the growing spread of the coronavirus (especially in congested areas) and urge families to reconsider travel plans at this time. The EU's CDC is putting out a daily risk assessment on COVID-19. These advisories can be accessed here: <https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/current-risk-assessment-novel-coronavirussituation>.

As of March 2, 2020, the Centers for Disease Control has categorized Prevention Levels 1,2, and 3 risk assessment for COVID-19 for the following countries:

Level 3: China, Iran, Italy and South Korea

Level 2: Japan

Level 1: Hong Kong

Additionally, the U.S. CDC maintains a website for continuous information on its response to the novel coronavirus outbreak <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>, and the State Department has issued the following guidance:

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/ea/novel-coronavirus-hubei-province-china.html>

Health officials are currently taking steps to prevent the introduction and spread of COVID-19 into US communities. Schools can play an important role in this effort. Through collaboration and coordination with local health departments, schools can take steps to disseminate information about the disease and its potential transmission within their school community. Schools can prepare to take steps to prevent the spread of COVID-19 among their students and staff should local health officials identify such a need.

When should I be concerned about the coronavirus? SFDR CISD's Role and Ongoing Actions

San Felipe Del Rio CISD remains in close consultation with the Texas Education Agency and our partners in public health as we monitor the novel coronavirus situation and ensure standard health and safety precautions are in place, such as disinfecting classrooms and classroom furniture, and reminding our students to constantly practice good hygiene to avoid the spread of germs.