

Dear PUSD,

We are continuing to closely monitor the coronavirus (now named COVID-19) situation.

As of February 21, 2020, County health officials report there are only two known cases of coronavirus in San Diego County. Both individuals were on flights (2/5/20 and 2/7/20) from Wuhan, China and are under federal quarantine at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar.

You may be aware that the disease has spread to other countries and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has issued new travel warnings with increased concern for South Korea, Japan, and Italy. Travel warnings for China have not changed, and the CDC has lowered their level of concern for travel to Hong Kong and Taiwan. Additional detail about these warnings can be found on the [CDC website](#).

[We are working with county school and health officials to establish protocols for PUSD in the event that coronavirus does spread in San Diego County.](#) More information will be shared as this plan develops. In the meantime, current information about the coronavirus is available on the [CDC](#) and [County of San Diego/Health and Human Services](#) websites.

As a reminder, if your child is sick, please keep them home from school. To help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses, including the coronavirus and flu, follow these important tips:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Individuals with chronic health issues and/or individuals experiencing severe symptoms should be evaluated by a medical professional.
- Get vaccinated every year.

Additionally, the California Department of Public Health does not recommend the use of face masks for general prevention and says that handwashing provides better protection from infectious diseases.

Poway Unified School District will continue to monitor the situation and provide updates as necessary. We thank you for your cooperation and support.

Sincerely,

Greg Mizel, Associate Superintendent, Student Support Services
Poway Unified School District