

Westfield Academy and Central School

Michael Cipolla
Superintendent of Schools

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Julia Murphy
School Business Official/
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March 4, 2020

Dear Westfield Families and Staff:

Given recent news coverage of the Coronavirus (COVID-19), we recognize that you may have concerns about the health of your student(s) and how Westfield Academy and Central School protects students from becoming ill.

While the Westfield Academy and Central School does not have a confirmed case of COVID-19 in our schools, we are aware of concerns in the community about the spread of this virus.

There are a number of steps that students, staff and community members can take to minimize the spread of all respiratory illnesses, including COVID-19, according to the State Department of Health:

- 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.

Information about this new virus is unfolding rapidly. The Centers for Disease Control will update its interim guidance as new details become available. For more information, please visit:

- New York State Department of Health
https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/coronavirus/#_blank
- Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) - Frequently Asked Questions - Prevention <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html#prevention>

- Prevention, Treatment of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/prevention-treatment.html>

In addition, New York has established a Coronavirus Hotline, which can provide additional information. Call 1-888-364-3065 with questions or concerns about travel and symptoms.

The health and safety of our students will always remain the number one priority. We will continue to closely monitoring this evolving situation and following guidance from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), Chautauqua County Department of Health and the New York State Education Department.

If you have any questions, please contact me or your child's principal

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Cipolla', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael Cipolla
Superintendent of Schools