

January 28, 2020

Dear Gilbert Public Schools Family and Community,

As many of you are aware there is a virus that has been in the news called the Coronavirus, also known as the 2019 Novel Coronavirus.

As a school district, we are updated frequently by the [Arizona Department of Health Services](#) and at this time the immediate risk of the 2019 Novel Coronavirus to the general public is believed to be low.

This is the same message we are hearing from the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#), which has stated that "based on current information, the immediate health risk from the 2019-nCoV to the general American public is considered low at this time."

Please note that should there be a need to update our parents and community on anything regarding the Coronavirus, official information will be shared through email and on our district website [www.gilbertschools.net](http://www.gilbertschools.net).

Today we have been dealing with a number of hoax images, from an unknown source(s), that reference three of our high schools and the coronavirus. We ask that you please take a moment to remind your children to **report rather than repost** or share images such as these.

Public Health Officials are reminding us that this is flu season and our most important defenses against the spread of respiratory viruses, such as the flu are:

- Getting your flu shot
- Washing your hands for at least 20 seconds- if soap and water are not available please use alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, 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
- Clean, and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces

Please be assured, our district health services team, administrators, teachers, and staff take precautions inside our classrooms and schools every day to promote a healthy learning environment for our students.

Thank you for your continued partnership in keeping our students and schools healthy, safe and secure.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out directly to your child's school.

*Gilbert Public Schools*