March 12, 2020

Dear Caesar Rodney Families and Community Members ~

As the global outbreak of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) continues to evolve, the Caesar Rodney School District, working with other districts in Delaware as well as the Division of Public Health, is taking steps to prepare for the possibility of transmission to our community. As part of our preparation, we have reviewed our emergency preparedness plans and devised a Pandemic Preparedness Action Plan. We will move through the phases of this plan as advised by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Delaware Division of Public Health (DPH).

➤ Find updates, FAQs and downloadable materials at DPH’s coronavirus webpage: de.gov/coronavirus
➤ Division of Public Health has opened a public call center at 1-866-408-1899. For now, the call center will be staffed from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and have a recorded message after-hours.
➤ DPH also will receive public email inquiries and questions at dphcall@delaware.gov.

We continue to monitor all presumed and positive cases in our surrounding area on a daily basis. With confirmed cases in neighboring states and now in Delaware, we are currently in Phase II. At this time, we have not received communication from our local and state health agencies regarding the need to limit any CRSD activities. However, if advised by local and state health agencies, or if deemed prudent by our administrative team and Board, the district will begin to curtail activities. This could include further limiting student and staff travel, including field trips, suspending events and activities hosted by outside groups in CRSD facilities, and prohibiting audience attendance at CRSD events and activities. Please report any travel abroad to your child’s school office. The District will continue to monitor the CDC’s guidance related to quarantines for travelers to and from certain countries. At this time, we are requesting that anyone associated with Caesar Rodney School District schools practice mandatory 14-day quarantines for travel to/from any level 2 or level 3 country. The lists currently include China, South Korea, Italy and Japan. Because this is a rapidly changing situation and many details remain unknown, we will continue to monitor and evaluate known facts while taking into account our number one responsibility – to keep students and staff safe.

If our local and state agencies determine that our area is infected due to a widespread number of confirmed cases, or if there is a confirmed case within our district, then we will transition into the last phase of the Response Plan and temporarily close appropriate district facilities, including suspending instructional activities. If that were to happen, we will work closely with the Governor and Secretary of Education regarding loss of instructional time. However, we are making efforts to continue with recommendations and resources to continue with academics to the best of our ability.

WHERE EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE IS A TRADITION

The Caesar Rodney School District is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate in employment or educational programs, services or activities based on race, color, religion, national origin, gender, age, veteran or marital status, disability, sexual orientation, gender identification or genetic information in accordance with State and Federal laws. Inquiries about compliance should be made to the Title IX, District 304 and ADA Compliance Officers: Paul L. Dunbar Administrative Building, 7 Front Street, Wyoming DE, 19934. Phone (302) 698-4800
As you know, this is a rapidly changing situation. Please be assured that CRSD will remain vigilant in our efforts to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and will communicate any changes to our Response Plan. We would like to reinforce best practices for helping to prevent the spread of COVID-19:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds;
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available;
- 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 and throw the tissue in the trash immediately, or use the bend of the elbow; and
- Limit physical contact with others such as handshakes and high fives;

We will continue to keep CRSD families and staff informed as this situation evolves, keeping in mind our commitment to educate, serve, and protect the Caesar Rodney community.

Sincerely,

Kevin R. Fitzgerald, Ed.D.
Superintendent