



## Community Schools

March 11th, 2020

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Dear Gull Lake Families and Community,

There continues to be a significant amount of information circulating regarding the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in the media and on social media. Gull Lake Community Schools has and will continue to work under the guidance and expert recommendations of the Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services Department (KCHCS), Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), and Center for Disease Control (CDC). We are closely monitoring the situation and our primary concern is always the health and safety of our students, staff, and community.

The best way to protect yourself and your family, and to stop the spread of viruses such as the flu, common cold, and COVID-19 include:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer (containing at least 60% alcohol)
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing.
- Avoid contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home if you are sick and contact your healthcare provider.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Currently, the Gull Lake Community School District is reinforcing the importance of the protective measures listed above and have intensified cleaning within our buildings.

COVID-19 can impact anyone regardless of nationality or ethnicity and are not indicators of who may or may not be at risk.

It is common for students to have questions about this topic. Below are resources for families to utilize that will provide unbiased factual information.

[Speaking with your students from the Center for Disease Control \(CDC\)](#)  
[Kalamazoo County Health and Community Services Department](#)

In consultation with the Kalamazoo County Health Department, we are presently holding all district activities as scheduled. We will continue to monitor and adapt as conditions evolve. The safety of our students, staff, and community continues to be a district priority.

Sincerely,  
Raph Rittenhouse, Superintendent