



# Brownsville Independent School District Health Services

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March 2, 2020

BISD staff, students and parents,

The Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a virus identified in China and has now been reported in the United States.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has confirmed multiple cases of novel coronavirus 2019 in people under federal quarantine at JBASA-Lackland in San Antonio. The first was a traveler who returned on a U.S. State Department-chartered flight from Wuhan City, China. The others returned on a State Department flight for passengers from the *Diamond Princess* Cruise ship quarantined in Yokohama, Japan. The individuals will remain isolated at medical facilities until they test negative for the virus and are no longer at risk of spreading it. The CDC has the latest information on the number of people under quarantine who are infected and is [updating its national numbers](#) every Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

There are no other cases in Texas, and these cases do not change the risk of infection for people in San Antonio or other parts of Texas because the patients have been under federal quarantine since their return and have not interacted with the public in Texas communities. The risk for all Texans remains low.

According to the CDC, patients with COVID -19 have reportedly had mild to severe respiratory illness with symptoms of fever, cough and shortness of breath. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure. If you have been in China within the past 14 days, been exposed to a sick traveler from China, or been exposed to the COVID-19, call your doctor. **For updates and information visit [dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus](https://dshs.texas.gov/coronavirus)**

BISD is taking extra precaution sanitizing the schools, offices and playground equipment. Please take note of the best way to prevent the spread of respiratory viruses like the coronavirus or the flu.

#### **The CDC recommendations are:**

- Stay home when you are sick, temperature of 100 or above.
- Wash your hands often for at least 20 seconds
- Avoid touching your face, eyes, nose with unwashed hands
- Avoid contact with people who are sick
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue and dispose of it
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces
- Encourage flu vaccine for those who have not had it this season.

Thank you,

BISD Health Services Department

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