



## CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR CORONAVIRUS

Homestead Schools Annual Security Report has an Emergency Notification that is triggered by an event that is currently occurring on or imminently threatening the school facilities. Emergency notification procedures are initiated for any significant emergency or dangerous situation involving an immediate threat to the health or safety of students or employees. Upon confirmation of a serious or emergency situation that poses an immediate threat to the health or safety of the campus community, a campus-wide notice will be disseminated, unless issuing a notification will, in the judgment of the responding authorities, compromise the efforts to assist a victim or to contain, respond to, or otherwise mitigate the emergency events that qualify for emergency notifications such as an outbreak of serious illness.

### **Situation Assessment:**

On 31 December 2019, WHO was alerted to a cluster of pneumonia patients in Wuhan City, Hubei Province of China. One week later, on 7 January 2020, Chinese authorities confirmed that they had identified a novel (new) coronavirus as the cause of the pneumonia. The proposed interim name of the virus is 2019-nCoV.

### **Epidemiological Overview: (as of March 3, 2020)**

- In China, 60.5% of all cases since the start of the outbreak have been reported from Hubei Province. The remaining 39.5% of cases have been reported from 33 provinces, regions, and cities.
- 3,200 deaths have been reported mostly in China;
- Nine deaths have been reported in the United States
- More than 94,000 cases of the illness have been confirmed around the globe.
- At least 128 confirmed cases in the US.

Today, March 4, 2020, Los Angeles County has declared a local state of emergency amid coronavirus outbreak as the number of coronavirus cases increased to seven, with six new cases in LA county.

### **Coronavirus:**

Epidemiological evidence shows that 2019-nCoV can be transmitted from one individual to another. During previous outbreaks due to other coronaviruses, including Middle-East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) and the Severe Acute

Respiratory Syndrome coronavirus (SARS-CoV), human-to-human transmission most commonly occurred through droplets, personal contact, and contaminated objects (fomites). The modes of transmission of 2019-nCoV are likely to be similar. The precise zoonotic (animal) origin of the 2019-nCoV is still uncertain. The virus has been identified in environmental samples from a live animal market in Wuhan, and some human cases have been epidemiologically linked to this market. Other coronavirus, such as SARS and MERS, are also zoonotic, and can be transmitted from animals to humans.

A coronavirus is a kind of common virus that causes an infection in your nose, sinuses, or upper throat. Most coronaviruses aren't dangerous. But In early 2020, after a December 2019 outbreak in China, the World Health Organization (WHO) identified a new type, 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV), which can be fatal. The organization named the disease it causes COVID-19. The virus can cause severe illness and death, although most cases appear to be mild.

Signs and symptoms of COVID-19 may appear two to 14 days after exposure and can include:

1. Fever
2. Cough
3. Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing

The severity of COVID-19 symptoms can range from very mild to severe. People who are older or have existing medical conditions, such as heart disease, may be at higher risk of serious illness. This is similar to what is seen with other respiratory illnesses, such as influenza.

Most coronaviruses spread the same way other cold-causing viruses do: through infected people coughing and sneezing, by touching an infected person's hands or face, or by touching things such as doorknobs that infected people have touched.

### **Prevention:**

Although there is no vaccine available to prevent infection with the new coronavirus, you can take steps to reduce your risk of infection. WHO and CDC recommend following the standard precautions for avoiding respiratory viruses:

1. Wash your hands often with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
2. Cover your mouth and nose with your elbow or tissue when you cough or sneeze.
3. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth if your hands aren't clean.
4. Avoid close contact with anyone who is sick.
5. Avoid sharing dishes, glasses, bedding and other household items if you're sick.
6. Clean and disinfect surfaces you often touch.

7. Stay home from work, school and public areas if you're sick.
8. Provide easy-to-access hand sanitizers.

WHO also recommends that you:

1. Avoid eating raw or undercooked meat or animal organs.
2. Avoid contact with live animals and surfaces they may have touched if you're visiting live markets in areas that have recently had new coronavirus cases.

**Recommendations:**

- Any employee and student showing signs and symptoms of the coronavirus SHOULD FOLLOW public health guidance and INFORM public health authorities promptly.
  - Contact the school Emergency Team to develop the plan to meet for individual needs and implement the plan in the event of emergency.
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