

March 19, 2020

Dear Lafayette Elementary Students and Families:

At DC Public Schools (DCPS), we are committed to ensuring the well-being of our students and school communities. Communicating home about issues that impact school communities is important to fostering strong partnerships with families, and I would like to provide an update about the coronavirus (COVID-19).

We were notified by DC Health that a parent member of the Lafayette school community tested positive for coronavirus 19 (COVID-19). We are working closely with DC Health, and per their guidance, **you do not need to be tested or undergo voluntarily quarantine based on this exposure**. DC Health continues to recommend that all residents monitor themselves for [symptoms of COVID-19](#) such as fever, cough, and shortness of breath. If you develop any of these symptoms, please stay home and contact your healthcare provider for guidance.

DCPS will continue to implement enhanced cleaning protocols and monitor the situation closely with DC Health and other District agencies.

To help prevent the spread of germs and protect yourself and those around you, you should:

- Practice [social distancing](#).
- Multiple times a day, wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Seek medical attention if you have reason to believe you have been exposed to COVID-19 or influenza. Call your healthcare provider before visiting a healthcare facility.

Thank you for your understanding and ongoing commitment to keeping the safety of our students, staff and school communities a priority. If you have any questions, please send them to [ceo.info@k12.dc.gov](mailto:ceo.info@k12.dc.gov).

For more information and resources about coronavirus (COVID-19), please visit [coronavirus.dc.gov](http://coronavirus.dc.gov).

Sincerely,

Lewis D. Ferebee, Ed.D.  
Chancellor