



STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

A Memo from the New Jersey Department of Education

Date: March 3, 2020  
To: Chief School Administrators, Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads, Administrators of Nonpublic Schools  
Route To: Building Principals, School Nurses, School Staff  
From: Lamont O. Repollet, Ed.D.  
Commissioner of Education

### **Updated 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) Guidance for Child Care and K-12 Schools**

Please note that on March 2, 2020, the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) published additional COVID-19 guidance for child care and K-12 schools. That guidance and additional information can be found on NJDOH's [COVID-19 Information for Schools and Businesses webpage](#).

The guidance is designed to address concerns among childcare centers, school administrators, teachers and parents about how the current outbreak of COVID-19 might impact their communities. To prepare for possible community transmission of COVID-19, the most important thing for schools to do now is **plan** and **prepare** in accordance with the considerations and strategies outlined in NJDOH's guidance. We encourage all district administrators and boards of education to read it in its entirety and to consult with local health officials regarding its various risk mitigation strategies.

As a reminder:

- Please refer frequently to NJDOH's [main COVID-19 webpage](#) to stay abreast of the most recently updated information and guidance.
- The NJDOH has established a hotline (800-222-1222) to answer questions about COVID-19. Operated by the Poison Information and Education System, the 24-hour public hotline is staffed with trained healthcare professionals and can accommodate callers in multiple languages.
- The New Jersey Department of Health [Local Public Health Directory](#) lists all local health departments in the state.

The New Jersey Department of Education will continue to keep school districts updated through methods such as Broadcast memos, social media and webinars. In addition, the NJDOH encourages school officials to keep up-to date on the latest information by checking the 2019-nCoV webpage and following them on [Twitter](#) @njdeptofhealth, [Facebook](#) /njdeptofhealth, [Instagram](#)@njdeptofhealth and [Snapchat](#) @njdoh.

c: Members, State Board of Education  
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