

BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Baltimore City Council Resolution 20-0194R Baltimore City Public Schools Coronavirus (COVID-19) Preparation

March 5, 2020

Baltimore City Public Schools (City Schools) is committed to protecting the health and wellbeing of students, staff and schools by proactively taking all appropriate precautions and utilizing best practices to prevent the potential spread of the COVID-19 virus throughout the school system, as described below.

- **Close and continuous collaboration with the Baltimore City Health Department (BCHD) on all health-specific issues.**
 - City Schools will defer to BCHD on all issues directly related to health, including preventative measures and recommendations to close schools for virus-related issues. Collaboration will be facilitated through direct communication channels.
 - Follow BCHD screening protocol for students with symptoms through student nurse/health suite – as well as monitoring patterns of student absenteeism.
- **Protocols for clearly identified channels for internal/external communication at the district and school levels, to facilitate ongoing access to information by employees, families, communities and city/state agencies.**
 - Website, social media, webinars, email and district call center.
 - **Critical messaging:** Importance of keeping children home if they are sick, and staff/employees staying home if sick.
- **Institute intensive precautionary cleaning regimen in schools and offices.**
 - Increased focus on cleaning/disinfecting during high-traffic times and locations.
 - Heightened emphasis on handwashing and other effective practical steps for staff and students.
- **Contingency plans in the event of school closings.**
 - Protocols for creating and disseminating at-home work assignments.
 - Plan for school-based emergency food centers and coordination with city emergency food distribution centers.
- **Conduct personnel strategy review: teachers and staff**
 - Contingency plans in the event of high absenteeism due to illness.