



P: (765) 866-0203

F: (765) 866-0736

P.O. Box 8, New Market, IN 47965

www.southmontschools.org

February 3, 2020

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is closely monitoring an outbreak of a respiratory illness caused by a new coronavirus first detected in Wuhan, China. The virus continues to expand, with confirmed cases in the United States. While the CDC considers this a very serious public health threat, based on current information, the immediate health risk from coronavirus to the general American public is considered low at this time.

As directed by the CDC and the Indiana Department of Education, Southmont Schools is monitoring students using normal procedures to identify any symptoms. Families should be aware that students will be sent home if they present with the following symptoms: fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Additionally, due to stomach viruses and influenza, Southmont Schools will send home students with symptoms of diarrhea, vomiting, or any other concerning symptoms at the school nurses' discretion.

All students and staff are strongly encouraged to practice good health hygiene to prevent the spread of any illness, including viruses.

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

For more information about Health Services at Southmont Schools, [click here](#).

Sincerely,

Southmont Schools