



Administrative Offices
100 Antietam Road, Reading, Pennsylvania 19606
Fax (610) 779-4424

JEFFREY R. BOYER
District Superintendent
(610) 779-0554

TRACY L. DETWILER
Business Manager
(610) 779-2606

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Good Afternoon Antietam School District Parents and Guardians,

The Antietam Administration recently listened to a press conference held by Dr. Rachel Levine, Secretary of Health for Pennsylvania. She reviewed and defined many phases that have been used in the media about the Coronavirus (COVID-19). Understanding these phases will help the Antietam community better understand the district's plan for the coming weeks.

- **Containment Phase** involves trying to find cases early and trace all contacts to avoid the spread of the disease.
 - Dr. Levine indicated that COVID-19 in Pennsylvania is at the “*containment phase*” with no known community spread.

- **Community Spread** means an illness has spread in the community with no way of tracing the illness.
 - Dr. Levine indicated that COVID-19 in Pennsylvania has *no known community spread because we are at the containment phase.*

- **Social Distancing** measures are taken to restrict how people gather to stop or slow the spread of illnesses.
 - Social distancing measures can include limiting large groups of people coming together in areas or buildings.
 - Dr. Levine suggested considering social distancing measures for large groups and gatherings.
 - The Antietam School district has *not made any decisions on Social Distancing.*

- **Isolation** separates individuals that are sick from people who are not sick.
 - It is usually voluntary, but in an emergency, the Department of Health can legally isolate those who are sick.
 - There have been *no cases of isolation reported to the Antietam School District.*

- **Quarantine** separates and restricts the movement of people who have been exposed to an illness to see if they become sick.
 - Someone in quarantine may not be sick and may not become sick.
 - Quarantine can be voluntary, but the Department of Health can legally quarantine those who are sick.
 - There have been *no cases of quarantine reported to the Antietam School District.*

As of this message, the Antietam School District has *not received notice that any of our students or faculty/staff members have been exposed to the virus.*

Our current plans:

- Antietam School District *will remain in session.*
 - During this time, we will remain in contact with the PA Department of Health, Berks County Department of Emergency Services, Berks County Intermediate Unit, and the Pennsylvania Department of Education.
 - We will monitor activities locally and regionally, and *we will continue the daily cleaning of classrooms, bathrooms, locker rooms, hallways and stairwells, cafeterias and large group rooms, and school vans and buses.*
- Our school administrators are allowing students ample *time and opportunity to wash their hands, particularly around lunch and snack time.*
- We may need to address “social distancing” by canceling specific events, if needed. *We will continue to monitor the situation.*
- We are also looking at upcoming *student field trips and staff travel and will make appropriate case-by-case decisions to ensure everyone’s safety.*

If you have any questions or concerns about your health, or the health of a family member, please contact your medical provider. *Any individual exhibiting flu-like symptoms are asked to contact their health provider immediately.*

I understand that many people are feeling fear of the unknown and turning to the Antietam School District for guidance. I want to assure you that we are making educated decisions for our community based on the information available.

Thank You,

Jeffrey R. Boyer