



*Blue Ridge  
Educational Center  
Unlocking Learning Potential*

March 2, 2020

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Staff Members:

As you may know, influenza and influenza-like illnesses are effecting a number of people in the area. Additionally the Coronavirus, which is officially known as COVID-19, is a growing concern. Although the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Virginia Department of Health have notified the Virginia Department of Education that there are currently no cases of COVID-19 in Virginia, Blue Ridge Educational Center is monitoring the situation closely and adhering to guidance provided by public health agencies. We want you to have information for everyday preventive actions to help prevent and control these illnesses.

Information You Should Know

- BREC has a plan to deal with a variety of emergencies, including infectious/contagious disease such as COVID-19.
  - The goal of the plan is to maintain the health and safety of students and staff.
  - We are monitoring student and staff attendance to help identify any areas of concern.
  - All classrooms are provided with sanitizing wipes and hand sanitizer and we follow CDC protocols with regards to cleaning and sanitation to ensure the safety of our students & staff.
- BREC will work with parents to care for their student.
  - Staff members have been briefed on the signs/symptoms of flu-like illness and prevention.
  - We are encouraging students & staff to practice safe health practices- frequent handwashing, covering coughs and sneezes, staying home when sick.
- There are things everyone can do to help prevent the spread of illness, including COVID-19.
  - Wash hands often with soap and water, especially after coughing or sneezing.
  - Cover your nose & mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash.
  - Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
  - Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread that way.
  - If you get sick or have a fever, stay home from school and limit contact with others to keep from infecting them.

Additional resources can be found at:

- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention COVID-19 Information](#)
- [Virginia Department of Health COVID-19 Information](#)

As always, if you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Kind regards,

April Strosnider, Director