



# MOUNTAINSIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT

MOUNTAINSIDE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
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*Mrs. Janet Walling*  
Superintendent of Schools

[www.mountainsideschools.org](http://www.mountainsideschools.org)

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February 28, 2020

Dear Mountainside Parents/Guardians:

The health and safety of our students, staff and families is always our top priority and I would like to assure you that the Mountainside School District is closely monitoring all updates regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19) from the CDC (Centers for Disease Control), New Jersey Department of Health, and the New Jersey Department of Education.

While there are no confirmed cases of the COVID-19 in New Jersey, please be aware that we do have policies and procedures in place to guide the district through these types of circumstances should the need arise. We will also implement any guidance provided by the New Jersey Department of Education, and other state and local agencies. We were informed today that the New Jersey Department of Health is updating school-specific guidelines related to COVID-19, which they anticipate will include parent FAQ's. Any updates that we receive will be posted to our website and also communicated through email as needed. The Mountainside School District informational page can be accessed [here](#).

The following links, which can also be found on our website, provide useful, factual information about the current status of COVID-19:

CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/summary.html>

NJ Department of Health: <https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml>

Additionally, this is the time of year when we typically see an increase in illnesses such as the flu and other viruses. We encourage you and your children to utilize the recommended precautions for preventing these illnesses as shared through the Westfield Regional Health Department and school guidelines. These include the following:

- Prevent the spread of germs by covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue (then properly disposing of the tissue) or sleeve, not your hands.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds. Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
- Clean and disinfect frequently-touched surfaces and objects
- Keep your children home when they are sick
- Children should not return to school unless they have been fever-free without medication for 24 hours.

I hope that you find this information helpful and thank you for your cooperation in keeping our schools healthy and safe for all.

Sincerely,

*Janet Walling*

Superintendent of Schools