

February 3, 2020

Wuhan Novel Coronavirus Update

As you are likely aware, Ontario has identified confirmed cases of the Wuhan novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV). Students, parents and school communities should rest assured that the province is working together in close cooperation with its partners in both the education and health care sectors to ensure the continued safety and well-being of students and staff. The Wuhan novel coronavirus is not spreading in our community.

The CK Public Health is not advising the wearing of masks. **Please do not send your child to school wearing a mask.** Masks are often used incorrectly, and spread unnecessary panic in communities. The Chief MOH for Ontario agrees that masks are not helpful to wear in community settings.

The following tips can be used to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses (such as Wuhan novel coronavirus or influenza (flu)):

- Wash your hands frequently and thoroughly with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze
- If you don't have a tissue, sneeze into your sleeve or arm
- If you or your family members are ill, stay home
- Get a yearly influenza vaccination (for flu only)

For more information on Wuhan novel coronavirus please visit CK Public Health's [website](#) which includes links to the Government of Canada, and Government of Ontario's websites with up-to-date announcements.