



KNOW THE FACTS

COVID-19

What is coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)?

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), much like the common flu, is a respiratory illness that can spread from person to person. The virus that causes COVID-19 is a novel coronavirus that was first identified during an investigation into an outbreak in Wuhan, China.

Have there been any confirmed cases in Cobb County?

To date, there have been no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the Cobb County School District or Cobb County. The CDC confirmed two cases in neighboring Fulton County on March 2.

What steps is the Cobb County School District taking to protect students and staff?

The District will continue to stay in constant communication with Georgia Department of Health officials and will follow their guidance every step of the way in order to keep our students and staff safe. Our schools continue to remind students and staff on how to prevent the spread of illness including hand washing, covering mouths when they cough, and keeping their hands away from their face. Parents are urged to keep students at home if they have any symptoms of sickness.

Should a staff member or student become ill, Cobb Schools already has a reporting protocol in place regarding infectious diseases, which is part of the District's Infectious Disease Response Plan. The



COBB SCHOOLS

COVID-19

District will use guidance from public health officials to update and apply the plan to respond to COVID-19.

How can parents help?

- Stay informed. Refer to the [Georgia Department of Public Health](#) and the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#) for latest updates on COVID-19
- In order to stay updated on the latest communication from Cobb Schools regarding COVID-19, please take time to update your contact information with your student(s) local school(s).
- Remind your kids about proper hygiene including proper handwashing techniques. Follow these [handwashing tips from the CDC](#) on how to help your students at home.
- Keep your students at home if they have had a fever in the last 24 hours or are showing signs of illness.

What will happen if there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 in Cobb County?

We will continue to follow the guidance of the Georgia Department of Public Health including the steps needed to keep our students and staff safe and healthy, which is always our top priority. The current risk level for our school community is considered low. However, if public health officials update our schools' risk level, the school community can expect to hear an update from Cobb Schools regarding potential next steps. All decisions will be made in coordination with public health officials. Please take time to update your contact information at the local school level to ensure you receive any updated communications regarding COVID-19.

What are the symptoms of COVID-19?

Patients with COVID-19 have had mild to severe respiratory illness with symptoms of :

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of Breath



What are ways to prevent the spread of respiratory viruses, like COVID-19?

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- If soap and water is not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
- 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.

Where can I find more information on COVID-19 and how I can keep my family safe and healthy?

- [Coronavirus Guidance from the Department of Public Health](#)
- [Staying Healthy in the Classroom Podcast](#)
- [DC Responds to COVID-19](#)
- [Up-to-Date Information from the Georgia Department of Public Health](#)
- [Additional Cobb Schools Resources](#)