Florida Health Department Coronavirus Hotline (24hours/7days): 1-866-779-6121

If you have symptoms such as fever, cough, or shortness of breath, before you go to the doctor, Call the Manatee Health Department at 941-242-6649 (8am-5pm M-F).

Community Engagement and Communications
The school district is working closely with the Manatee Health Department and Manatee County Emergency Management regarding all decisions related to Coronavirus (COVID-19). The district is communicating often with parents and employees on our website at https://www.manateschools.net/coronavirus, as well as through its social media sites, Connect-Ed phone calls and email as well as its mobile app – MySDMC.

If You or Your Child Feel Sick Please Stay Home
State Surgeon General Scott Rivkees has advised anyone who has symptoms such as fever, cough, or shortness of breath or believes they may have been exposed to COVID-19 should stay at home and contact the Manatee Health Department at 941-242-6649 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Practice Good Health and Hygiene
Please take care of yourself, eat well, get plenty of sleep and exercise. Also, always follow best practices preventing the spread of flu-like viruses such as: covering your mouth when you cough or sneeze; washing your hands with soap and water or alcohol-based hand cleaner; avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth when possible and staying away from people who are sick.

CDC Travel Warnings to and from High-Risk Countries
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) advises all individuals who have traveled or will be traveling to high-risk countries – China, Iran, Italy and South Korea – to complete a mandatory 14-day self-isolation and to practice social distancing upon return to the United States. Social distancing includes avoiding going out in public and close personal interactions. If you have or will be traveling to Japan or traveling on a cruise ship, the CDC asks you to monitor your health and limit interactions with others for 14 days after returning to the United States. If you become symptomatic, immediately self-isolate and contact the Manatee Health Department at 941-242-6649. (Employees in the above situations will be subject to school district guidelines regarding employee absences.)

Enrollment of New Students from High-Risk Areas
Any new families arriving to Manatee County from high-risk countries who are experiencing high concentrations of outbreaks are requested to telephone the Office of Student Assignment for instructions prior to enrollment. District officials will work with community health officials to determine the appropriate registration and attendance plan for those students. Families arriving from high-risk countries are asked not to visit schools or school district offices, but to interact with the district by telephone. Please call the Office of Student Assignment at 941-708-4971 extension 42000 if you are enrolling a new student from a high-risk country or area of the United States.
Spring Break Travel March 16-19 for Students/Employees/Families

Please follow the CDC’s recommendations to not travel to the high-risk countries and if you are planning to do so please contact your school or supervisor immediately.

Please take all necessary precautions if you plan on traveling to those areas of the United States that are experiencing high concentrations of outbreaks.

Please take all necessary precautions if you plan on visiting a major theme park during spring break.

As a reminder, if you feel sick when you come back from spring break please stay home and call the Manatee Health Department at 941-242-6649.

Any school-sponsored or district-sponsored travel to high-risk areas will be cancelled.

Currently planned school-sponsored or district-sponsored out-of-state travel which is non-refundable for students and employees may be allowed if a trip is to an area which is not on the CDC’s list of concern. District administration will review each trip on a case-by-case basis. If an employee or student is not comfortable traveling, those individuals will be excused from the event.

Currently planned school-sponsored or district-sponsored out-of-state travel which is refundable will be reviewed by district administration to determine if the travel is permissible.

Until further notice, new out-of-country and out-of-state travel requiring air travel will not be approved - except for emergency situations or highly-mission critical employee travel.

The district is proceeding with caution regarding in-state travel. All in-state travel must be approved by district administration. Trips requiring air travel, events held in closed spaces, or events with 1,000 or more participants will be carefully considered on an individual basis.

Field Trips
In-County: There are no restrictions currently for in-county field trips. The district will continue to work with the Manatee Health Department and monitor any potential issues in our local community.

Athletic Events
We are currently working with Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) regarding regional and state athletic events and will provide guidance to schools once that information is received.

Spring Break Deep Cleaning
The district is implementing enhanced cleaning and disinfecting measures in schools now and during Spring Break, to include providing additional access to alcohol-based hand sanitizers; stocking restrooms with soap and paper towels; disinfecting all restrooms and breakrooms daily; disinfecting daily all common touch areas such as copiers, door handles, light switches, faucets and water fountains. In addition, playgrounds and outdoor touch surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected.