



*Supporting individuals with developmental disabilities in Allen County
by strengthening partnerships and providing high quality services.*

Allen County Board of
Developmental Disabilities March 13, 2020

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MARIMOR SCHOOL

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Dear Parents & Families,

One of the priorities of the Allen County Board of Developmental Disabilities is the health, safety, and well-being of our students and staff at Marimor School. Accordingly, we have been closely monitoring the news surrounding the outbreak of COVID-19, commonly referred to as the coronavirus. At this point in time, our agency and our community have had no confirmed cases of this virus; however, the State of Ohio has a handful of confirmed cases of COVID-19. Due to this and the Governor's directives, we have been initiating proactive measures at Marimor School to help protect our students, staff, and community. Here are some of the changes as of today:

- Beginning at the end of the school day on Monday, March 16, we will follow the Governor's directive to take an extended spring break until April 3. We will then cancel our planned spring break on April 10, 13, and 14. We recognize some area schools will be finishing Friday; however, we will be open Monday. If your child cannot be transported by your local district, you are welcome to bring your child to school or begin the break early.
- When school is back in session, we will make a decision about school-related field trips, travel, and off-campus physical education classes. Until further notice, we are cancelling PLAYTIME for young children at the Marimor School building.
- We will work to limit visitors in our buildings unless necessary, including volunteers. This will not include essential meetings. However, we will ensure those coming in are not ill and take extra cleaning precautions as necessary.
- Our teaching staff are considering what work can be accomplished with your child at home, if necessary. If you should have to educate your child at home for a time period, we will do all we can to support that effort. We also will be reaching out regarding nutritional needs for some of the children who attend Marimor School.
- The agency will be open during this time. You may contact your SSA or other staff member if you have any unmet needs. We will do all we can to assist.
- If you need to see another staff member on our campus, please know we will be increasing the frequency of cleaning and disinfecting high-touch areas in all of our buildings, using disinfectants proven effective against COVID-19 as recommended by the EPA and CDC. Our custodial team has

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- been working hard to make sure we have extra supplies in all our common areas and cars/vans, so we can take extra precautions in cleaning.

For your information, symptoms of COVID-19 include fever and lower respiratory issues, such as coughing and shortness of breath. Currently, there is not an anti-viral medication or vaccination available for COVID-19. We will continue to follow any guidance received from the Ohio Department of Education, the Ohio Department of Health, and Allen County Public Health. If we were to experience a COVID-19 case, we will take direction from these agencies regarding potential school closings.

Our agency adheres to our safety plan, which details appropriate responses to these types of outbreaks using the resources that we currently have in place. It is imperative that families of students also help with this effort, by keeping sick children or children showing signs of cold-like symptoms at home. If you need to visit our campus over the next three weeks, please delay your visit if any member of your family is ill.

Please be aware that these guidelines may change, but be assured that we will continue to keep you updated with the latest information. In addition to written communication, we will be posting information on our website, www.acbdd.org.

Sincerely,



Theresa M. Schnipke
Superintendent

For more information:

- Ohio Department of Health – <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/>
- Centers for Disease Control (CDC) – <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- Message from State Superintendent of Public Instruction and Ohio Department of Education – <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Student-Supports/Coronavirus>
- For more information on the Coronavirus outbreak in Ohio, the Ohio Department of Health has a hotline established: 1-833-427-5634.