



To: Students, patrons and staff

From: Dwight Hughes, CEO / Superintendent

Date: March 13, 2020

Re: COVID-19 Update

The world health community continues to monitor the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic closely. High Plains Technology Center's administration is also monitoring and taking steps to be proactive to address a number of business and school related concerns.

With Spring Break taking place next week, the Oklahoma State Department of Health and the Oklahoma State Department of Education have partnered together to provide specific guidance related to Spring Break travel as well as other travel. HPTC would like all students and staff to be aware and follow these guidelines.

Individuals returning from travel to China, South Korea, Italy, Iran, Japan or any other Level 2 or 3 country as identified by the CDC should self-quarantine for a period of 14 days before returning to HPTC. This applies to all students, teachers and district staff. Although being in a self-quarantine status is disruptive, it is imperative to do so in order to protect all who work and learn at HPTC.

As of now, these guidelines only apply to International level 2 and 3 travel. However, we are closely monitoring the situation as it is rapidly evolving and are considering out-of-state travel guidelines.

If you're returning from a Level 2 or 3 country, please review the following:

- Take your temperature with a thermometer two times a day and monitor for fever. Also, watch for a cough or trouble breathing.
- Stay home and avoid contact with others. Do not go to work or school for this 14-day period. Discuss your work situation with your supervisor or HR before returning to work.
- Do not take public transportation, taxis or ride-shares during the time you are practicing social distancing.
- Avoid crowded places (such as shopping centers and movie theaters) and limit your activities in public.
- Keep your distance from others (about 6 feet).

Please refer frequently to the CDC [Travelers Guidance](#) as other countries may be elevated to Level 2 or 3 at any time.

HPTC is taking this opportunity during Spring Break to thoroughly clean and sanitize our facilities and equipment, in preparation to resume classes on Monday, March 23, 2020. We provide alcohol-based hand sanitizers throughout our buildings and encourage staff and students to use them frequently. Also, anyone entering our facilities should be free from flu like symptoms, cough, fever and/or shortness of breath.

For more information on the Coronavirus, please click the links below.

- [Oklahoma State Department of Health – Information Regarding Travel, Spread of Coronavirus, Frequently Asked Questions, and More](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention – Preventative Measures for Coronavirus](#)