Dear Bering Strait School District Families:

The recent outbreak of the COVID-19 Coronavirus has prompted many concerns among our communities. The District is keeping in close contact with our public health and safety partners to ensure that we do our best to keep our children safe and to prepare for any potential scenarios in the future.

The Director of the Center for Disease Control (CDC) has repeatedly stated that the risk is low, and we currently have no identified cases in Alaska. There are many things that you as a parent can do to help keep your child safe and healthy. Attached to this letter are handouts with information regarding preventative behavior, as well as information about the coronavirus itself.

The principals and staff at our schools are working to ensure that the schools are clean and disinfected, that children wash their hands frequently, and that any staff member or student who is ill stays home.

At this time there are no plans to cancel student travel unless event organizers or state agencies have canceled the event – we are monitoring the situation closely. However, it is the right of any parent to decline for their child to participate in sports or field trip travel.

We encourage you to be calm, follow recommendations of your public health and safety professionals, and watch for future updates. We appreciate your continued support of our schools and children.

Respectfully,

Robert Bolen, Ed.D