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Dear Parent/Guardian,

The Van Buren School District is closely monitoring information about the Coronavirus disease. As with any communicable disease or potential outbreak, we work with the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) and Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) to follow their recommendations to ensure we are protecting our students and staff. There are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the Van Buren School District at this time.

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses known to the medical community since the 1960's, which may cause mild respiratory illnesses such as the common cold. A new coronavirus, now known as COVID-19, was detected in humans in late 2019. Illnesses of COVID-19 have reportedly ranged from mild to severe.

At this time, the Van Buren School District is not at risk. However, we continue to take precautions to prevent the spread of the Coronavirus, and other viruses including the flu and common cold, which include:

- Routinely cleaning and disinfecting the school
- Encouraging staff and students to wash their hands frequently with soap and water
- Ensuring that bathrooms are adequately furnished with soap
- Students not returning to school until they are fever free for 24 hours

You can also help prevent the spread of viruses by encouraging your student to:

- Stay home when they are sick
- Frequently wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- Avoid touching their eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
- Cover their mouth when coughing or sneezing
- Not sharing food or drinks

Student wellness is a top priority at the Van Buren School District, and we truly appreciate your help to keep our students healthy.

Families may visit the following websites for more information regarding the COVID-19 coronavirus:

Centers for Disease Control

Arkansas Department of Health

