

# HAMPTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 2

## Office of the Superintendent

“Our mission is to provide a rigorous, personalized environment of academic excellence that prepares Each child, Each Day and in Every classroom to be college/career and citizen ready with no excuses.”

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Earl N. Choice, Chairperson  
Thomas Owens, Vice-Chairperson  
Mary Ann Atkins, Secretary  
Jacqueline Hopkins, Parliamentarian  
Daisy B. Orr, Member

### SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Martin L. Wright, ED.S.

## Memorandum

To: Parents

From: Martin L. Wright, Superintendent of Schools

Date: March 13, 2020

Re: **Coronavirus and Flu Prevention**

The world health community continues to monitor closely the emergence of the SARS-CoV-2 virus and the disease it causes, named “coronavirus disease 2019” (COVID-19). At this time, no one knows how severe this outbreak will be. Given this uncertainty, and the fact that the seasonal influenza (flu) virus is also widespread, we are taking proactive steps to address a number of school business concerns. First and foremost, we will maintain a safe learning environment and adopt practices protecting the health of students, employees, and visitors. It continues to be our highest priority. We also want to ensure the continuity of school operations in the event of a pandemic.

We ask all parents to cooperate in taking steps to reduce the transmission of communicable diseases at school. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention states that children do not appear to be at higher risk for COVID-19 than adults. As you daily examine your child(ren), you can help prevent the spread of germs by monitoring symptoms associated with germs. Parents should encourage kids to wash hands often with soap and water or with alcohol-based sanitizer, avoid the touching of eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands, and avoid contact with other sick people. Moreover, keep your child at home when they experience cold-like symptoms such as fever, runny nose, shortness of breath and cough.

As you watch the news media and social media feeds that may provide information on developing cases of COVID-19 in South Carolina, please practice caution in your beliefs regarding valid and reliable information. When an individual is being assessed for COVID-19, the medical community will utilize the term “Presumptive positive” which means samples from the individuals tested positive for COVID-19; however, these results are required to be “confirmed” by the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). It takes 24-48 hours for the CDC to confirm samples after they are received.

Should the need arise for the cancellation of school, I will provide communication to parents via Parent Square, One-Call Now, Social Media Publication through FACEBOOK and the district’s webpage ([www.hampton2.k12.sc.us](http://www.hampton2.k12.sc.us)). Now is a good time to stop by your child’s school to ensure that you have updated contact information to include email address, telephone number (cellular, home and work). As of today, the South Carolina Department of Health does not recommend closing schools. We will continue to provide instruction for our students and maintain the integrity of our instructional program. Additionally, teachers have

635 4<sup>th</sup> Street East ▪ Estill, South Carolina 29918 ▪ (803) 625.5000 ▪ Fax: (803) 625.2873

[www.hampton2.k12.sc.us](http://www.hampton2.k12.sc.us)

**Vision 2021: A world class rural school district. Demonstrating our BEST!**

been asked to develop personalized learning plans for grades PreK-12. In the event of school closure, PreK students will continue to be assigned work from the newly implemented Waterford Program. Students in grade K-12 will be provided with learning plans and work tasks in PDF format so that parents may access using Parent Square. Limited hard copies of learning plans and work tasks will be made available at schools for parent pick-up on the day of possible school closure. Until that time, continue to expect that Hampton County School District 2 will operate as normal.

As Superintendent, I am counting on you to help us stay ahead of this changing situation associated with COVID-19. I will keep you abreast of any developing or changing situation. I ask that if you should have any questions, please contact my office with any questions or concerns at 803.625.5002.