

Dear WCSD families:

Someone recently created and distributed the following graphic that appears to be a news report announcing that Westerville City Schools is closing next week due to the coronavirus:



This graphic was made on a website that allows users to generate fictitious news stories. Please know that if the district had important news such as this to share, you would receive it directly from us. We also would communicate this type of information through our official Facebook and Twitter feeds, as well as post it on our website.

We appreciate the families who have contacted us to verify that this is a prank. Unfortunately, the individual who decided to create this clearly does not understand the potential consequences of his or her actions. At the present time, there are no confirmed cases of coronavirus in central Ohio. We continue to discuss the matter as a district and take our guidance from those health agencies serving our communities.

Our schools host numerous gatherings regularly and serve as centers of activity for the community, whether smaller meetings of parent organizations, or larger events, such as concerts and theatre productions. As health officials continue to monitor and work to contain the spread of coronavirus, we urge everyone to continue exercising individual responsibility, as well as individual decision making, regarding their attendance or participation in such events. This is especially true if you fall into one of the identified [higher-risk populations](#). Health tips are available through reputable sources, such as the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) and the [Ohio Department of Health](#).

We remain in regular contact with health officials and continue to monitor official sources of information regarding the coronavirus. We encourage you to do the same, particularly if you see or receive an announcement about our schools from a source that is not an official source of district information.

Sincerely,
Dr. John R. Kellogg
Superintendent