

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Washington State PTA Statement Regarding COVID-19

Tacoma, WA (March 2, 2020): The Washington State Parent Teacher Association (WSPTA) is aware of the concern and anxiety around the outbreak of COVID-19 in the state of Washington and across the world. At this time, we would like to express our confidence in the Department of Health and the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) to get timely information out to the public and to school districts.

This is an incredibly fast-developing situation, and each school district is handling the situation differently. Washington State PTA is advising each local PTA to speak with their district's administration and monitor the district websites for updates. In addition, we recommend that they go to the Department of Health (<https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/Coronavirus>) for the most up-to-date information for the state.

Washington State PTA is the oldest and largest child advocacy organization in the state of Washington. Since 1905 we have been advocating to improve the health, safety, well-being and education of all children. In addition, National PTA has provided resources for all parents at <https://www.pta.org/home/family-resources/health/flu-prevention> which families may find helpful in reviewing for tips and ideas to stop the spread of germs.

About Washington State PTA: The Washington State PTA was founded in 1905 by Abby Williams Hill of Tacoma, an artist who saw the need for an organization to support Washington's children. Thanks to her leadership and vision—and over 125,000 current members who have carried her vision forward—Washington State PTA has been a leading voice for children in Washington for more than 114 years. To learn more about the Washington State PTA, please visit www.wastatepta.org.

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