

## PRESS RELEASE O MARCH 4, 2020

## White County School System

## Superintendent Dr. Laurie Burkett

White County School System is aware of the potential threat of Coronavirus (COVID-19) in the United States. As we are updated by the Georgia Department of Public Health, (GDPH), we will continue to follow the lead of local, state and federal agencies. The White County School System is taking all of the necessary precautions coming from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) as well as the GDPH. Georgia Emergency Management (GEMA), along with the Governor's Coronavirus Task Force is coordinating and disseminating all up-to-date information with state health leaders, federal and local partners at this time.

Please be aware that the CDC is asking school officials, as well as childcare centers and workplaces to prepare for a possible outbreak. At this time, there are no confirmed cases in White County. At a March 2, 2020 meeting with the White County Pandemic Task Force the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent of School Safety reviewed the Government and Education model of the Pandemic Plan to make sure that the White County School System is fulfilling all responsibilities.

White County School System is currently reinforcing the importance of healthy hygiene with our students and employees. Our school nursing staff provides detailed information to principals and district staff as they track, monitor, and report illnesses.

We share the public's concern regarding the possible spread of COVID-19 and we will remain focused on taking a calm, deliberate and proactive approach to protecting the health of the students, staff and the White County community.

For more information on COVID-19 please visit <u>https://dph.georgia.gov/novelcoronavirus</u> or <u>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html</u>.