

BOARD MEMBERS

Tina Certain
Robert P. Hyatt
Leannetta McNealy, Ph.D.
Gunnar F. Paulson, Ed.D.
Eileen F. Roy

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Karen D. Clarke



District Office
620 East University Avenue
Gainesville, Florida
32601-5498

www.sbac.edu
(352) 955-7300
Fax (352) 955-6700

Mission Statement: We are committed to the success of every student!

February 28, 2020

Dear Alachua County Public School families:

Alachua County Public Schools is in regular communication with the Alachua County Health Department regarding the coronavirus, also known as COVID-19. According to the Centers for Disease Control, there are NO cases of COVID-19 in Alachua County or in the State of Florida. A recent advisory from the CDC states that "for the general American public, who are unlikely to be exposed to this virus at this time, the immediate health risk from COVID-19 is considered low."

However, the district will continue to monitor the situation in collaboration with Health Department. In the meantime, we ask that families follow these practices:

- Keep students or other family members home if they are sick. Those with flu-like symptoms should remain home until at least 24 hours after symptoms have ended, including fever.
- Wash hands regularly. Everyone should wash their hands regularly with soap and water, especially after coughing or sneezing. Alcohol-based hand sanitizers may also be used.
- Cover coughs and sneezes, and if a tissue is not available, cough into your elbow, NOT your hand.
- Avoid sharing cups, utensils and other such items.

If, and when, further steps are recommended as a result of COVID-19, we will inform parents through the district's website (www.sbac.edu), social media pages (Facebook @AlachuaCountyPublicSchools and Twitter @AlachuaSchools) and through the School Messenger system.

You can find updates on the virus at www.floridahealth.gov and the CDC's coronavirus page at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Please be assured that the health and well-being of our students and staff is our highest priority.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen Clarke". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Karen Clarke, Superintendent
Alachua County Public Schools