

The Mahoning County Board of Developmental Disabilities
Leonard Kirtz School · The Centre at Javit Court · Transportation Department

Dear Parents, Guardians and Providers

The top priority of the Mahoning County Board of Developmental Disabilities is the health, safety, and well-being of our students, adults and staff at Leonard Kirtz School and the Centre@ Javit. Accordingly, we have been closely monitoring the news surrounding the outbreak of COVID-19, commonly referred to as the coronavirus. We learned yesterday that there are confirmed cases of COVID-19 in our regional area. Mahoning DD is implementing the following proactive measures at Leonard Kirtz School and the Centre@ Javit to help protect our students, adults, staff and community:

- Effective immediately all school related field trips and work site visits are cancelled until further notice. Evening and weekend events scheduled at Leonard Kirtz School have also been cancelled.
- Community outings at Javit have been cancelled.
- Mahoning DD has purchased additional hand sanitation stations to provide more access to hand sanitizers throughout LKS and Javit.
- Staff has been instructed to clean high contact/ touch areas such as doorknobs, countertops, telephones and other surfaces more frequently. Maintenance/ custodial staff in collaboration with nursing staff will ensure the appropriate cleaning agents are used.

Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever and lower respiratory tract issues such as cough and shortness of breath. Currently, there is not an anti-viral medication or vaccination available for COVID-19. Mahoning DD will continue to follow any guidance received from the Ohio Department of Education, the Ohio Board of Health and the Mahoning County District Board of Health. If we were to experience a COVID-19 case, we will take direction from these agencies regarding potential facility closings.

We continue to review contingency plans in the event of extended closures and how this would impact operations/ services to the community. It is imperative that families and providers help our efforts by keeping sick children and adults home.

Please note that information may change rapidly and we will do our best to communicate any changes through our one call system, website, and social media. If you are interested in communications via our one call system please contact Tim Gabrelcik at 330-799-2728 or tgabrelcik@mahoningcountyoh.gov.

For more information on COVID 19 please visit <https://www.cdc.gov/> or <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/>

Sincerely,



Bill Whitacre, Superintendent