

From: Podell, David
Sent: Thursday, January 30, 2020 9:07 AM
To: MBCC.AllEmployees; mbcc.AllStudents
Subject: Message to the Community Concerning the Coronavirus

Dear Members of the MassBay Community:

Like most of you, MassBay is closely monitoring news about the coronavirus (2019-nCoV) that originated in Wuhan, China. At present, very few cases have been identified within the United States and, as I write this, there are no known cases in Massachusetts. The Massachusetts Department of Public Health reports that the current risk to residents of Massachusetts is low.

We will continue to monitor any changes in the status of the virus in our area. If you have been exposed to this virus and have fever, cough, or shortness of breath, please seek medical assistance immediately.

As you may have read in the news, the coronavirus can cause mild illness (with symptoms that are like a simple cold or upper-respiratory infection) or, in some instances, more severe illness that can result in pneumonia.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) offer the following information and guidance: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/

The following are basic steps you can take to prevent the spread of all respiratory viruses and create a healthier campus community:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

David

David Podell, Ph.D.
President, MassBay Community College
(781) 239-3101

