

**Please direct inquiries to:  
Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit 5  
814-734-8401**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 13, 2020**

**Crawford, Erie and Warren County School Superintendents Issue  
Statement on Coronavirus Preparation**

The superintendents of the public school districts of Crawford, Erie and Warren counties have released the following joint statement regarding the coronavirus COVID-19 and its potential impact on students, staff and families:

*“The health, safety and well-being of our students and staff are our top priorities. With the recently elevated discussion regarding coronavirus COVID-19 in the news, we would like to reinforce preventive safety measures that have previously been shared. We all can take to steps to minimize the spread of illness.*

Effective March 16 through March 29:

- Field trips traveling outside of each district will be suspended.
- There will be no athletic competitions held. Practices will be held for school-sponsored teams only.
- The use of the school facilities by outside groups will be suspended (other than for the purpose of day care programming).
- All gatherings over 250 people will be canceled, effective immediately.
- We encourage all students, staff and families to be mindful of key preventive measures. The CDC offers [tips on its website](#) that can be useful in avoiding the spread of COVID-19 and other types of illnesses.

*We are closely monitoring the situation and taking guidance from the Pennsylvania Department of Health and local emergency management officials. If new recommendations are provided, we will immediately notify our districts' students, staff, and families.*

*Information is being released as it becomes available, and will continue to be disseminated through district channels.*

*We appreciate everyone's understanding and ongoing efforts to prevent the spread of illnesses in our schools and community.”*

###

Mr. Jarrin Sperry, Conneaut School District  
Mrs. Sheri Yetzer, Corry School District  
Mr. Tom Washington, Crawford Central School District  
Mr. Brian Polito, Erie School District  
Dr. Erick Kincade, Fairview School District  
Mr. Richard B. Emerick, Fort LeBoeuf School District  
Mr. Richard Scaletta, General McLane School District  
Mrs. Donna Miller, Girard School District  
Mrs. Kelly Hess, Harbor Creek School District  
Mr. Shane S. Murray, Iroquois High School  
Dr. Michele S. Hartzell, North East School District  
Mr. Jim Gallagher, The Roman Catholic Diocese of Erie  
Mrs. Darcie Moseley/Mr. Aaron O'Toole, Millcreek Township School District  
Mr. John Hansen, Northwestern School District  
Dr. Tim Glasspool, PENNCREST School District  
Mr. Mathew Bennett, Union City School District  
Mr. Ken Berlin, Wattsburg Area School District  
Dr. Dean Maynard, Executive Director, IU5  
Dr. H. Fred Walker, Erie County Technical School  
Mr. Bradley Whitman, Assistant Executive Director, IU5