Coronavirus – COVID19
Talking Points

Cases in Polk County: There has been a confirmed case of the coronavirus with a resident of Pierce County. This individual attended an event at Osceola High School this past Saturday.

- Students or staff who participated in the Destination Imagination Osceola event are considered to be at low-risk for being exposed to the coronavirus.
- The recommendation is for those who were in attendance at this event to self-monitor for fever and respiratory illness symptoms and to self-isolate if symptoms appear. Please contact your local health department and your healthcare provider if symptoms appear.

Vaccine: There is currently no vaccine to protect against COVID-19. The best way to prevent infection is to take everyday preventive actions, like avoiding close contact with people who are sick and washing your hands often.

Symptoms: Patients with COVID-19 have had mild to severe respiratory illness with symptoms of:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath

Spread: The virus that causes COVID-19 is now spreading from person to person. The virus is thought to spread mainly between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet) through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. It also may be possible that a person can get COVID-19 by touching a surface or object that has the virus on it and then touching their own mouth, nose, or possibly their eyes, but this is not thought to be the main way the virus spreads.

Prevention: People can help protect themselves from respiratory illness with everyday preventive actions:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.

For even more local updates and information you can also contact 2-1-1 at 877-947-2211

“Partnering With Communities to Protect and Improve Health and Well-Being”