

## Hand-Washing Policy

Hand washing and personal hygiene are important measures to prevent illness and communicable disease. Hand washing with soap and warm water for a minimum of twenty (20) seconds and paying close attention to the surfaces between the fingers and on the back of the hands, is best for removing dirt and germs. The proper use of hand sanitizers is also useful in controlling the spread of germs.

Students and staff will wash their hands:

- after using the rest room.
- if hands are visibly soiled
- before and after eating or preparing food
- after encounter with chemicals or other items in a science lab, art room, vocational facility, or other educational venue that soils hands
- upon encountering chemicals during cleaning process
- upon handling animals or animal habitats
- upon encountering bodily fluids (e.g. blood, nasal discharge, mucous from coughing, etc.)
- after sneezing or coughing
- after recess, physical education, or being outside

When soap and water are not available or practical, hand wipes or hand sanitizer may be used.