For Immediate Release: Saturday, March 14, 2020

On Saturday, March 14, 2020 at 7:00 pm, the Chair of the Cayuga County Legislature, Aileen McNabb-Coleman has declared a State of Emergency in connection with the 2019 Novel coronavirus (COVID-19). Further, the McNabb-Coleman has ordered that all classes and extra-curricular activities in Cayuga County schools are canceled pending further order. It is anticipated classes will be cancelled through April 13, 2020. As a result of Executive Order 202.1, issued March 12 by Governor Andrew Cuomo, local school districts are relieved from the 180-day requirements due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

The declaration can be updated at any time, but will remain in effect for the next thirty days.

The Cayuga County State of Emergency was declared after consultation by the Chair of the Cayuga County Legislature, the County Attorney, the Public Health Director, the County Emergency Management Director, City of Auburn officials and local school superintendents.

Although Cayuga County has no positive cases of COVID-19 at the time of this press release, county officials are taking these measures as a precaution. We understand that life is going to be different for everyone during this time.

"This declaration follows suit with what many counties in New York and states across the nation are doing – especially in terms of social-distancing. We urge Cayuga County residents to rely on information provided by public health officials. As a community, we will continue to respond in a calm, unified manner," stated McNabb-Coleman.

“Continuing our collective efforts of social distancing, school dismissal is an effective public health measure to prevent and slow the transmission of COVID-19 to help protect the most vulnerable members of our community,” stated Kathleen Cuddy, Public Health Director.

School districts officials will be communicating with their school families through phone calls, website and emails.

Updates on COVID-19 can be found on the Cayuga County Health Department website: www.cayugacounty.us/health

Aileen M. McNabb-Coleman
Chair, Cayuga County Legislature