

Coronavirus Message
March 2nd, 2020

Dear Parents,

I know you've seen recent news reports about COVID-19, better known as the coronavirus.

I am reaching out to you to let you know that as we move through the remainder of this school year, we will remain focused on creating healthy environments for our students, staff, and community. We have been discussing the coronavirus with other schools and are in contact with local, state, and national health organizations that recommend proactive planning for increased concern in our communities. We want you to know what you can expect from us, and also what we will ask from you as the school year continues. As partners in your child's health, we look forward to being collaborative in the well-being of our school community.

What You Can Expect from Us:

- **Prevention.** We will continue to emphasize basic, smart hygiene with our students. These practices include things like regular hand washing and appropriately covering our mouths and noses when we cough or sneeze. Students and staff who demonstrate influenza-like symptoms while in school will be sent home. For additional information on these preventative measures, please see the School's airborne illness policy, which is attached to this email communication.
- **Sanitation.** The School is cleaned regularly and while the threat of the virus remains, we will be increasing the degree of cleaning. Our classrooms and common areas are cleaned and sanitized every day, with more frequent attention paid to high traffic areas like bathrooms, doorknobs, and handrails.
- **Information/Resources.** We are in contact with local, state, and national health organizations and are committed to following their recommendations and guidelines.
- **Communication.** We will share information with you as we can while also protecting the privacy of our students and their families.

What We Ask of You:

- **Prevention.** Please practice basic hygiene with your children at home and ask them to wash their hands regularly to help suppress the spread of germs. In addition, things like eating a balanced diet, drinking plenty of

fluids, and getting enough sleep help to bolster the immune system and are excellent prevention tools.

- **Keep Sick Children at Home.** Don't send them to school or out for extracurricular activities. For additional information about when to stay home from school, please see the School's airborne illness policy, which is attached to this email communication.
- **Communication.** Because we may be asked by the Department of Health to monitor the number of students who are absent due to flu, we may ask you about your child's illness when you call him or her in as absent from school. You are not required to share specifics of your child's illness, but we may ask for your cooperation in tracking illnesses in our schools. Your cooperation will allow us to better monitor our student wellness profile during the flu season.

For more information about coronavirus and seasonal flu viruses, some helpful web sites include:

- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html>
- <http://www.flu.gov>
- <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx>
- <https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/Documents/Diseases%20and%20Conditions/Coronavirus%20K-12.pdf>
- <https://www.delcopa.gov/publicrelations/releases/2020/coronavirussafety.html>

Thank you for taking the time to read this message and for your help in proactively responding to the coronavirus. As always, your child's health and safety remain paramount at The School in Rose Valley.

Regards,

Rod Stanton
Head of School
The School in Rose Valley