

March 2, 2020

San Dieguito School Community,

This is an update from our last posting on February 26, 2020 related to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation.

Please be advised that we are collaborating closely with the [San Diego County Office of Education](#), and are receiving regular updates and guidance from the [County of San Diego Health and Human Services](#), the [California Department of Education](#), and the [Centers for Disease Control](#) (CDC).

It is important to remember that handling the spread of a serious contagion like the coronavirus is led primarily by public health agencies. Any directives from the World Health Organization, CDC, or local governmental organizations should be followed.

While we understand that you may have questions about the virus given the increased coverage in the news related to the growing situation, we want to reassure you that the safety of our students is paramount and we will continue to monitor the situation closely until it is fully resolved. At this time, the County is advising that the best thing we can do to reduce the risk within our community is to help keep you informed with a focus on prevention. Please review these informative articles that were shared with us:

- [Q&A: I have a cough and fever. Should I get checked for coronavirus?](#) - Los Angeles Times
- [How Does the Coronavirus Compare With the Flu?](#) - The New York Times
- [Just For Kids: A Comic Exploring The New Coronavirus](#) - National Public Radio

As a reminder, if your child is sick, please keep them home from school and know that this is considered an excused absence. They will not be penalized for missing school and will be given opportunities to make up for their missed work.

[Please engage in these important practices at home](#) to prevent the spread of respiratory viruses, especially with younger students:

- [Wash your hands](#) often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Individuals with chronic health issues and/or individuals experiencing severe symptoms should be evaluated by a medical professional.
- Get vaccinated every year

Families who have any upcoming travel or have traveled outside the United States in the past 14 days, should refer to the [CDC](#) website directly for the most current guidance and recommendations.

As we receive further guidance from SDCOE, the district is prepared to alter our procedures and planning should the situation change. We will continue to monitor the situation and communicate any updates as necessary.

Respectfully,

Robert Haley, Ed.D.
Superintendent
Committed to the Future