

Good evening!

As you have heard from a variety of news outlets in recent days, and most recently from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the coronavirus is a growing concern around the world. Currently there are relatively few confirmed cases within the United States, however, we must be conscious of the preventative measures provided by the Health Department (www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Immunization/nCOV2019.aspx) and CDC (www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html). The District leadership and the District nursing staff have received communications from these entities and are responding based on their advice.

We have been encouraged to follow these procedures as preventative measures:

- **Stay home when sick.**
 - Remain at home until the fever has been gone for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medicines.
 - Seek immediate medical care if symptoms become more severe, e.g., high fever or difficulty breathing.
- **Use “respiratory etiquette”.**
 - Cover cough with a tissue or sleeve. See CDC’s Cover Your Cough page (<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/prevent/actions-prevent-flu.htm>).
- **Wash hands frequently.**
 - Encourage hand washing by students and staff. Ensure scheduled times for handwashing throughout the day.
- **Routinely clean frequently touched surfaces.**

These are the typical measures we encourage during our regular flu season and they appear to be the **best** recommendations, at this time, from our health institutions.

We have received several communications from the Los Angeles County Superintendent (LACOE), Debra Duardo, and communications from the California Department of Education (CDE) regarding the steps that districts need to take as preventative measures. We will continue to monitor those communications and refine our practices/procedures as advised.

We **have not** been advised that we will need to close school at this time. LACOE, or the County Office, is working to support the Los Angeles County school districts in the event that closures are needed. Please understand that this situation is very fluid and we are both receiving information and sharing information as quickly as possible. If it becomes necessary to close a school or

schools, **we will communicate that directly to parents via our Parent Square notification system.**

For now, we encourage each family to practice the routines mentioned above to support limiting the spread of any illnesses at this time.

Sincerely,

Colleen Hawkins, Ed.D.

Superintendent