



Dear ECS Community,

We are writing to update you on our efforts to keep our campuses healthy during flu season and with recent developments with coronavirus (COVID-19).

We are currently partnering with our local public health representative and are continuously receiving updates from the [Centers for Disease Control](#) (CDC), which is monitoring the situation closely. As the CDC emphasized, there is not currently a coronavirus pandemic in the United States, and the number of cases across the U.S. is still small. More detailed information regarding the situation can be [found here](#). At the same time, we are updating our contingency plans that include processes for continued operations, education, and student support in the event that greater steps need to be taken.

Also be reminded that during these Winter/Spring months, we are still in the midst of Flu season. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention suggest the following ways to protect yourself against both illnesses:

- Stay home if you are ill. This includes symptoms such as fever, cough/difficulty breathing and/or intestinal problems, Please stay home at least 24 hours after you are fever free without the use of fever-reducing medication;
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds; If soap and water are not readily available, please use sanitizers with at least 60% alcohol;
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands;
- When coughing or sneezing, cover your mouth and nose;
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick and with cold-like symptoms (within six feet), and
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces such as door handles.

Lastly, it is important that we do not act out of fear, but rather focus on treating everyone in our community with kindness. Kindness is a part of our school culture and I know that we will continue to support an environment in which all students, staff and families feel welcome.

Be aware of misinformation surrounding the coronavirus. You can get the most accurate information at <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/coronavirus/>.

In closing, I would like to share with you a video update from our Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Debra Duardo. You may view the short video [here](#). We will continue to monitor and follow the local, national, and global health communities' recommendations. The safety and well-being of our students is our top priority. Thank you for taking precautions to protect yourselves and others in our community. And, as always, we are here should you have any additional questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
ECS Principal