



CORONAVIRUS AWARENESS AND INFORMATION

Taking Necessary Precautions

Coronavirus infections are transmitted through droplets in the air from a cough or sneeze. Increased awareness and practice of important precautions will help stop the spread of COVID-19 as well as other types of flus.

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. Help young children do the same. If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.
- Stay home when you are sick. Students, employees, and parents are urged to remain home until their symptoms, including, but not limited to, vomiting, fever of 99 degrees and above, frequent coughing, severe sore throat, and severe abdominal pain subside. Please note: school policy requires that a child be kept home until 24 hours after a fever subsides without the use of fever-reducing medications.
- Limit close contact with people who are sick (6 feet of distance)
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. If you do not have a tissue, use your sleeve (bent elbow). Do not cough or sneeze into the open air.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Get a flu shot – it's not too late to be protected against influenza.
- If attending an event on either campus, do not bring guests who are in the most vulnerable categories (i.e. elderly, immuno-compromised, etc.)

Increased School Hygiene Measures

- New Horizon faculty are communicating with their students about good hygiene and best practices for washing hands for at least 20 seconds to the tune of ABC's or Happy Birthday and drying their hands completely.

- Janitorial staff and faculty are disinfecting classrooms on a daily basis by wiping down high touch surfaces.
- Hand sanitizer is available in all the classrooms and special stations are set up in the lunch areas.
- Faculty and staff will keep windows open when possible to allow the flow of fresh air.
- Our transportation vendors, American GTS (for field trips) and Zum for daily commute, are disinfecting their vehicles regularly.
- Emergency go-bags in each classroom and taken on any field trips are equipped with hand sanitizer.

School Policies Regarding Illness

The school's current policy regarding fever remains in place.

“Children must not be in school with a fever (99 degrees Fahrenheit, 37.8 degrees Celsius, or greater) and should be kept home until 24 hours after a fever subsides without the use of fever-reducing medications. A child experiencing vomiting or diarrhea should not be sent to school until 24 hours after the symptoms subside. Please notify the school by 8:30 a.m. if your child is ill. While we understand that arranging childcare is sometimes difficult, children who are running a fever or have a communicable disease should not be sent to school. This is to protect your child, other students, and the staff. When making the decision about whether to send your child, please keep in mind that the child will take part in the full program, including physical education and outdoor activities. If your child becomes ill or is running a fever at school, we will call you to pick him or her up. Appropriate care will be given until parent, guardian, or a designated representative arrives.”

In the unusual event that a child or staff member is identified to have traveled to an area experiencing an outbreak of COVID-19 AND has symptoms of respiratory illness (such as fever and cough), that person will be sent home, and the school will immediately contact the LA County Department of Public Health.

Family and School Trips

The [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#) provides travel guidelines that discourage travel to Level 2 and 3 countries. If a family travels to any of these countries, they will be required to self-quarantine for 14 days from the date of leaving that country before the child can return to school. The school requests that families inform the school of any such travel.

The 7th and 8th grade class trips are currently under review.

As of March 11, 2020, the school will continue to review its curriculum-connected field trips on a case-by-case basis.

March 11, 2020

Preparing for Planned Closure

On Tuesday, Feb 25, the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention recommended that businesses and communities, including schools, **prepare** now for the potential of planned closures if needed to slow the spread of the coronavirus in the United States. The CDC is stating that the virus is **not** currently spreading in U.S. communities and that such actions might be put in place should sustained transmission in U.S. communities be identified. Please refer to the [CDC website](#) for specifics.

According to the LA County Health Department:

“Although there is no current need for significant social distancing measures in LA County, and the individual risk for contracting COVID-19 remains low for most individuals in the County, all community members should take the opportunity to plan for the possibility of more significant social distancing requirements should there be broad community spread,” said Muntu Davis, MD, MPH, Los Angeles County Health Officer.

At NHSP, as part of our ongoing emergency preparedness, we are in the process of developing a contingency plan should the school be closed for an extended period of time per the CDC’s possible recommendation. The Learning Continuity Plan involves a combination of daily assignments, packets, and online resources which teachers will make available to families and which will be clearly outlined on ParentsWeb. The guidelines for the Learning Continuity Plan will be available the week of March 16 but will be implemented if and when the school is advised to close.

Updates

We are currently monitoring updates from local, national and world health organizations on a daily basis and will communicate any updates as necessary. It is the responsibility of the public health agencies to handle the task of monitoring and managing a serious contagion like the coronavirus. Any directives from the World Health Organization, CDC or local government must be followed, and the school will follow any directives appropriately.

Resources

CDC Situation Summary

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/summary.html#risk-assessment>

LA County Public Health Department

<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/>

Infectious Disease Specialist Video

https://m.box.com/shared_item/https%3A%2F%2Fucdavis.app.box.com%2Fs%2Fon2dw24rktwdn2jj8vj5kjs3cpga9bfl

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