



March 6, 2020

Dear Winston Families,

We are continuing to monitor the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) situation closely and will provide updates as necessary. We wanted to share with you The Winston School response and action plan to COVID-19, including precautionary measures we are taking at school.

We understand that many parents and families are concerned about the potential spread of the virus in our school and have asked at what point we would consider closing our site. Our charge under state law is to stay open as long as our site remains safe for students and staff. State and federal law empower the local public health officer with broad authority to take all actions needed to control the spread of infectious disease, including orders to close schools. In our county, the San Diego County Health and Human Services Agency has this authority and is the lead agency in managing the county's response to this threat. Public health officials have assured us that school closures are unwarranted at this time and could create unintended consequences that would hurt their efforts to protect our community. We will remain in close contact with public health officials throughout this threat and comply with all of their guidance. Our focus continues to be on prevention and preparation.

On campus, our custodial staff continues with a heightened focus on cleanliness in hopes of mitigating the spread of germs. We continue to clean surfaces such as doorknobs, countertops and desks. We have protocols set in place for cleaning computers, laptops and electronic devices. Disposable wipes and hand sanitizers are available throughout our campus and we strongly encourage their use.

On Monday, March 9, 2020, we will have a school-wide hygiene assembly. We will be demonstrating proper hygiene practices and highlighting the following key points:

- Staying healthy
- Proper handwashing techniques
- Using deodorant
- Cleaning up after yourself
- Things to avoid
- Covering your cough
- Being supportive (If you see something, say something.)

We will also be placing signage in our bathrooms to help remind our students how long they should be washing their hands and the proper use of soap and water.

To further implement and magnify the importance of our hygiene assembly, **we ask you to please join us in these best practices:**

- DO NOT come to The Winston School if you are ill.
- Cover your cough and sneezes. We will teach all students to cough or sneeze into their sleeve or elbow, and to get a tissue if they have a runny nose. Please help your students and us by using this practice at home.
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer when soap is not available.
- Keep your student home when she/he is sick (fever, cough, vomiting). They may not return until at least 24 hours after vomiting or the fever has returned to normal without medication.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Wash your hands immediately after going to the bathroom or after touching your eyes, nose, and mouth, etc.

The Centers for Disease Control have a list of countries affected with widespread or sustained community transmission for coronavirus, including China, South Korea, Hong Kong, Macau, Japan, Iran, and Italy. We respectfully ask that anyone who has traveled to, or lives in the same household as someone who has visited the affected areas in these countries, NOT come to The Winston School for two weeks (14-days) after their return. Anyone who is feeling sick for any reason should refrain from being at The Winston School until well again. Please continue to monitor the CDC for updates and frequently asked questions at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

Please know that The Winston School will follow reporting and quarantine guidelines should a contagious situation happen. We have a quarantine plan with a designated room that is available if deemed necessary.

Thank you for reading and please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns at (858) 259-8155.

Sincerely,



Osiris Romero
Office Manager