

A Sponsored Ministry of the Sisters of Saint Joseph since 1920

Dear NFA Parent/Guardian,

While the NFA community, as a whole, is at a low level of risk of exposure to the coronavirus or COVID-19, we want to assure you that we are monitoring the situation by following information from the CDC, the Pennsylvania Department of Health (PA-DOH), and local independent school associations to determine the best steps to actively plan for the possibility of an illness. There is currently no reason to suspect the coronavirus is in our community, but we would like to relay tips for prevention, and the steps that NFA is taking to decrease the transmission of viruses and prepare.

Tips to prevent the spread of infection (flu and COVID-19):

- If a student is sick or exhibiting contagious symptoms such as fever, cough, or sneezing, please keep him or her home from school to avoid spreading illness. Students must be fever-free for 24 hours before returning to school.
- Remind students that hands should be washed often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds in warm water.
- When coughing or sneezing, cover both mouths and noses. Dispose of tissues immediately and wash hands.
- Avoid contact with anyone exhibiting cold-like symptoms.

Preparedness steps that NFA is taking:

- A Healthcare team at NFA is reinforcing with faculty, staff and students the importance of proper handwashing, covering mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing, avoiding touching your face.
- Our cleaning crew will heighten their efforts to wipe the doorknobs and railings, and will be checking daily that there is soap in the restrooms and that batteries are in the dispensers.
- As encouraged by the PA-DOH, we are asking the school community to notify the School Nurse if any family member has recently traveled to China.
- We have assembled an Emergency Preparedness Team and are discussing ways to prevent, prepare, and communicate in a timely manner.

<u>Here is further information from the Philadelphia School District</u> that will help you. Below this email is a reminder video, produced by the CDC, on proper handwashing techniques. Again, we are confident in the global health community's assessment of this outbreak and will be monitoring the situation closely in case that assessment changes.

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In the meantime, if you have any additional questions or concerns, do not hesitate to <u>reach out</u> to <u>Bridget Bradenham</u>, <u>School Nurse</u>, <u>via email</u> or at 215-247-3811, ext. 230.

Sincerely,

Ryan Killeen, Ed.D. President

Bridget Bradenham, BSN, RN NFA School Nurse