

March 11, 2020

Good morning Webster families,

Last night you received an email from the Superintendent regarding the coronavirus COVID-19. At this time there are no known cases of COVID-19 affecting staff, students, or parents in our school district. The district is taking direction from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LACDPH) and the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE). The district will continue to post updated information at the SMMUSD website at the <https://www.smmusd.org/Page/5437> and on all school websites. Be sure to click on the frequently asked questions link, <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1tyXI7IM9VYhpvZK-Ri4PvbltDVTOnce-wF839qAJUBw/edit> as this includes important information about travel during spring break.

There is currently no CDC/LACDPH recommendation to limit or cancel events. However, the coronavirus is an evolving situation that we are actively monitoring. Please be aware that we may cancel or postpone events in an abundance of caution. We will inform families as soon as we know if anything is postponed or cancelled. Thank you for your understanding if we have to postpone or cancel an event, as we are doing so with the best interest of our students, staff, and families in mind. In the meantime, thank you for washing your hands or sanitizing prior to going to events and staying home if you are sick.

Staff have been doing a great job encouraging and providing opportunities for students to wash hands. Hand washing is the number one prevention method. Postings have been provided to all teachers with reminders and directions for handwashing. All bathrooms are fully stocked with soap and supplies and we're excited to have seen an increase in washing. All teachers have also received links to these student friendly videos on handwashing and coronavirus that you can also share with your children. When washing isn't available we use hand sanitizer when possible.

CDC Handwashing Video Link- 3-minute video

<https://www.cdc.gov/cdctv/healthyliving/hygiene/fight-germs-wash-hands.html>

Brainpop TK- 2 Handwashing Video Link- 3-minute video

<https://jr.brainpop.com/health/bewell/washinghands/>

We are sensitive to how concern over this virus may make children anxious. Staff have been reassuring children that health and school officials are working hard to ensure that people stay safe and healthy. Staff also provide age appropriate information and accurate facts, and are teaching children positive preventive measures. We have gathered a few resources that are suitable for children. For now, keeping calm and reducing fear is essential.

<https://www.talkspace.com/blog/coronavirus-parenting-talking-to-children/>

Sincerely,
Ms. Daruty