



WISH

A WHOLE SCHOLAR APPROACH TO EDUCATION

Coronavirus Update: March 12, 2020

Dear WISH Families and Staff,

The World Health Organization officially declared Coronavirus (COVID-19) a pandemic, as of this morning. Our Administrators, Board of Directors, and WCA leadership team are working together and we will provide daily updates to the current situation.

Effective immediately on all WISH campuses per the recommendation of the Los Angeles County Public Health Department. It is imperative that we take these steps to help prevent the spread of coronavirus.

-All large gatherings, assemblies, school tours, and community education evenings are canceled until further notice. If there is an opportunity to postpone the event then it will be rescheduled at a later time. If the gathering has more than approximately 30 people, students and staff should not participate.

-Athletic events and other similar activities can continue, but without spectators attending.

-All in-person organizational and professional development meetings are canceled until further notice.

-Conferences or short meetings will be conducted by convening virtually through online platforms and software such as Zoom.

-School facilities will be used by school children only, all outside community group contracts that are not affiliated with the schools will be suspended until further notice

-All school field trips to public venues where there is exposure to crowds are canceled

-All students, staff, faculty members or visitors who have traveled outside the United States shall not return to school for 14 days.

We recognize these new restrictions will cause some difficulty and disappointment among many who are involved. Whether they be students and teachers who have worked hard to prepare for a competition or families and community members who have helped organize events to celebrate students and connect the schools to the communities they serve. We hope all involved can appreciate the need to protect the health and safety of all who are part of the school community.

If you are sick, please do not come to school. Any parents, staff, students and visitors with symptoms of fever and/or respiratory infection or who have a travel history within the last 14 days to an area identified by the CDC as Level 3 Travel Health Notice, will not be admitted to the school. We seek parents' full cooperation in self-identifying by not coming to school if you are sick or have traveled to one of these areas. Travel restriction information. Advice from the LACDPH changed today to stay home for 72 hours after a fever, not the 24 hours recommended yesterday.

Any decision to close schools will be made upon advisory from the LA County Office of Education and the LA County Department of Public Health and in conjunction with local and state agencies, including LAUSD. We are monitoring this closely and will keep you immediately informed. If it becomes necessary to close our schools' parents will be notified by robocall and email.

WISH is fortunate to have web-based instructional options available if we are required to make changes to our instruction due to closure or cancellation. The teachers have been preparing to serve children should off-campus instruction be required.

WISH continues to spread awareness and education and prevention of transmission by:

Continuing to use a robust, regular cleaning and disinfection schedule for frequently touched surfaces. Student desks and chairs are being cleaned with disinfectant daily, the staff is cleaning doorknobs regularly, and the restroom fixtures are also being cleaned during the scheduled restroom check-in times.

Encouraging universal handwashing through posters and class announcements.

Ordering additional handwashing and sanitizing supplies.

Teachers are taking the time to review health and safety precautions with the kids that include proper hand-washing and cough covering.

Teachers can refer students who have been or are reportedly sick to the Main WISH Office.

To prevent the spread of any illness in school and in the community, please maintain the healthy habits listed below:

If you get sick, stay home. Persons who have been ill should be fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication before returning to school or work.

Wash hands frequently.

Practice and model "Cover the cough."

Maintain social distance (avoid unnecessary touches, handshakes or other person-to-person means of transmission).

If you have questions regarding a potential illness, please call a clinic or your doctor before going in. If you do not have a healthcare provider, call 211 for assistance finding support near you.

As information continues to be provided to our school leaders, we will bring that to you in a timely manner.

Find up to date information at Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LACDPH, County):

Website: <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/media/Coronavirus/>

Daily updates for LAUSD:
<https://achieve.lausd.net/latestnews>

Social media: @lapublichealth

Please feel free to reach out to us directly if you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, the school's response, and action steps moving forward. We understand that this is a unique time and we will do everything we can to keep your children safe and to communicate consistently and immediately.

Thank you,

Dr. Shawna Draxton
Executive Director
WISH

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WISH Board President

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