March 3, 2020

Dear DV Families,

Delaware Valley Friends School has been carefully monitoring information from regional health organizations and the CDC about the recent outbreaks of the flu and coronavirus (COVID-19) in the US and internationally. We understand the concern that this situation may raise among our families, and I would like to share the latest information we have from local and national health organizations as well as the preparations and prevention efforts we are implementing to keep our school community healthy and minimize the potential for the spread of illness.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the immediate risk of COVID-19 to the general public remains low at this time and there currently are no reported cases of COVID-19 in Pennsylvania, Delaware or New Jersey. DV administrators are in communication with county and state health agencies to receive the most current updates.

Our custodial staff does a great job of keeping the school building clean. They are working with us to further intensify their daily cleaning and sanitizing routine, and we have increased the availability of hand sanitizers throughout the school. Today in Gathering, I shared a brief presentation with the community with information about how viruses spread and proper hygiene to reduce the spread of illness, e.g. hand washing, covering coughs and sneezes, staying home when you are sick, particularly if you have a fever (defined by the CDC as 100.4 or higher), and not returning to school until a minimum of 24 hours after the fever breaks. I also emphasized that it is important to avoid stigmatizing populations because of a perceived association with any disease. That presentation is linked below.

DOWNLOAD TODAY'S PRESENTATION HERE

If you or a family member has traveled or intends to travel to an area affected by the virus, we ask that you please notify the school.

We take the physical health of our school community seriously, and we are equally concerned with the emotional well-being of our students and faculty/staff members. The media coverage surrounding this outbreak can raise fears and anxieties, and we want to let you know that our school counselors, school nurse, and our entire student support team are available to help support anyone in the community who needs it.

We will continue to monitor the situation closely, and keep you informed of any further plans and preparations. Below are links to organizations where you can find more information.

PA Department of Health: https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx

Chester County Health Department: https://www.chesco.org/4376/2019-Novel-Coronavirus

In Friendship

[Signature]

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