



County of Sacramento

February 21, 2020

Dear Families:

A novel (new) coronavirus, now called COVID-19, has been detected in thousands of people, primarily in China. COVID-19 can lead to fever, cough, and shortness of breath and has caused numerous deaths.

Sacramento County Public Health is monitoring the outbreak closely and working with our partners at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and California Department of Public Health. Sacramento County Public Health recently confirmed the first travel-related case of COVID-19 in a Sacramento County resident. Please note that there is no local community transmission of COVID-19 and the risk to the public remains extremely low.

Please be assured that there is no need for alarm or to change daily routines in any way. Sacramento County Public Health is closely monitoring the situation. Students and school staff should go about their daily lives and practice the same precautions you do during cold and flu season:

- Stay home if you have a fever or are feeling sick. Unless sick, students and staff should continue to attend school.
- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when sneezing or coughing.
- Wash your hands with soap and water often. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- Get your flu shot. The flu vaccine won't protect against COVID-19, but it is highly recommended to help keep you healthy.

Some students may come to school wearing face masks. The CDC does not recommend the use of face masks among healthy individuals, however, it is important that anyone wearing a mask be treated with respect and not fear. N95 respirator masks are not designed for and should not be worn by children.

Students and school staff with recent travel from mainland China:

The federal government has issued special requirements for individuals who traveled from mainland China after 5pm EST February 2, 2020. Those individuals should contact Sacramento County Public Health at (916) 875-5881 for instructions. They should NOT report to work or school for up to 14 days from the date that they departed mainland China.

Anyone who has traveled from mainland China in the last two weeks and has a fever or a cough or shortness of breath should call their medical provider and report their symptoms and travel history and

then call Sacramento County Public Health at (916) 875-5881. They should not come to school until they have been evaluated by a doctor and told they are no longer sick.

Sacramento County Public Health will provide updates if local conditions change. To learn more, visit:
www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html (CDC)
www.scph.com (SCPH)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Olivia Kasirye MD". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Olivia Kasirye, MD, MS
Public Health Officer