

March 6, 2020 Update

Dear St. Anne's School Parents, Caregivers, Faculty, Staff, and Trustees,

In light of Governor Hogan's press conference last evening and the confirmed cases of Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) in Maryland, I am reaching out again as we continue to monitor the continuously evolving situation.

Protecting the health and safety of all our students, faculty, and staff at St. Anne's School of Annapolis remains our utmost priority. The Coronavirus outbreak is a situation we take seriously, and it has led us to make the following decisions in concert with practices of our fellow regional independent schools and upon evaluation of recommendations from state and independent school educational organizations:

1. **St. Anne's School of Annapolis will cancel classes for all students on Friday, March 13, so this can serve as a full professional development day.** This was originally going to be a half-day professional day due to our AIMS visit. Our AIMS visit will continue as planned, and we will also be able to work separately with faculty. We are developing remote-learning plans as a contingency so that learning is not interrupted if St. Anne's School should have to close. Faculty and staff need time to review these plans and undertake important preparations for teaching students online. We hope we will not need to close, but we wish to be ready, and we are confident the skills gained will have long-lasting value for our teachers and students.
2. In this highly unpredictable situation, **anyone planning to go abroad should be aware of the potential for quarantines facing travelers returning from a high-risk area.** If you have travel plans, we urge you to [check regularly with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) and consider their assessment for any destination—international or domestic—that you may visit. It is essential that you make the school aware of your travel plans to a Tier 2 or 3 country where you, your children, or any family member with whom your child has had contact. Please know that those who choose to travel where there has been a Coronavirus outbreak or to a Tier 3 country must not attend St. Anne's School during the 14-day quarantine upon return from that country.
3. Every spring break the school takes the opportunity to **conduct a more extensive cleaning of surfaces and the environment.** In February, the cleaning staff began to use the products *NCL Avistat-D* and *NCL Germi-Kleen*, both of which have demonstrated effectiveness against viruses similar to 2019-nCoV when used in accordance with the directions for use against Human Rotavirus. This is a powerful disinfectant that is non-acid.
4. Finally, please know that our faculty continue to review **healthy hygiene practices** with all students. I encourage all of us to take precautions to avoid exposure to the virus and once again share guidelines provided by the Maryland Department of Health:
 - Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
 - Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
 - Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue and throw tissue in the trash.
 - Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects or surfaces
 - Stay home if you are feeling ill. Do not return to school/work until you are fever-free, without medication, for 24 hours.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with your questions or concerns. Our school is continuing to address issues as they arise. I am deeply grateful for your partnership, flexibility, and understanding as we strive to protect the health and well-being of our community and remain focused on our educational mission.



Kind regards,

Lisa Nagel

Head of School

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