



MOUNT SACRED HEART SCHOOL, INC.

Tradition of Excellence

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March 13, 2020

Dear MSH Community,

We are aware that there are concerns surrounding COVID-19. I want to assure you that we have been actively monitoring the situation over the Spring Break and are working diligently to maintain a safe environment for our students and faculty.

We pray for those affected by the virus and wish them a speedy and complete recovery.

While the threat of the Corona virus seems to be spreading nationwide, San Antonio remains relatively unaffected, and MSH will do its part to protect our community. Be assured that the health and safety of our students, staff and families is our top priority. School administration is keeping track of the situation through the following sources:

- [San Antonio Metro Health](#)
- [Archdiocese of San Antonio](#)
- [The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [The World Health Organization](#)

In response to Mayor Ron Nirenberg's new Declaration of Public Health Emergency which prohibits large crowds for the next seven days, out of an abundance of caution, the Department of Catholic Schools is extending the Spring Break through March 20th. From March 23rd - April 6th, schools will temporarily transition to distance learning. MSH faculty and staff will take next week to prepare lessons/assignments for our students. You will be receiving more information regarding online lessons and activities later next week. In order to help us assess our options, please take a couple of minutes to complete our [Family Survey](#) form.

What you should know:

- MSH has had no suspected cases of COVID-19, and has not been notified of any member of the campus community with the virus.
- We are also keeping close communication with the Department of Catholic Schools (DCS), which is in regular contact with local health departments and other local school districts.
- As of today, all events are either cancelled or postponed until further notice. This includes:
 - all field trips
 - Casino Night
 - Rey Feo visit
 - All CYO and AIAL athletics practices and games
 - CAAC STREAM competition

- First Communion Retreat
- Cheer tryouts
- On-campus classes are tentatively scheduled to resume on April 6th.

Important directions for parents and guardians:

With an increased level of awareness around this illness, it is important that we rely on prevention measures both while at school and while at home. In order to ensure the safety of our community, we need your support in ensuring that students are not coming to school sick. The following directions are important:

- If your family travelled anywhere outside of the San Antonio area during Spring Break, please let me know.
- Students should stay home if sick. Avoid close contact with people when sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. It's a great time to recite the Our Father, Hail Mary, AND the Glory Be while hand washing!
- If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- If students have a fever and/or flu-like symptoms, consult your physician. It is likely the common cold or a common strain of the flu. Symptoms of COVID-19 include, but are not limited to, fever, runny nose, headache, cough, and the general feeling of being unwell; these also are symptoms of the common flu virus. Students should not return to school until they have been cleared by a physician (doctor's note highly recommended).
- If your family member travelled during spring break, we ask you to be extra cautious about screening for respiratory-related illnesses before sending your child to school.
- If you have concerning symptoms, contact your primary health provider immediately.

We appreciate your understanding in this very difficult and uncertain time. Feel free to contact me with your questions or concerns.

In closing, I ask that you join in asking our Lord, Jesus Christ to hear our petition:

Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages "curing every disease and illness." Come to our aid now, that we may experience your healing love.

Have a blessed day,



Sharon Longoria
Principal
Mount Sacred Heart School