

# St. JOSEPH'S REGIONAL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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*2019 National Blue Ribbon School for Academic Excellence*

Dr. Janine Bertolotti, Principal

March 6, 2020

Good morning, families

In light of the three confirmed cases of the coronavirus (COVID-19) in Montgomery County, we wanted to share with you our role in keeping your children and our staff safe.

First, we encourage all parents to reiterate the importance to your child(ren) of basic hygienic practices that they should be practicing daily. These include:

- washing their hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, especially before eating, after using the restroom, after blowing their nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- We also encourage the use of hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are unavailable.
- avoid touching their eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
- please also emphasize appropriately covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue, and immediately throwing it away in the trash.

Second, if your child is sick, please, for the sake of his/her health and all others, keep them home. Please also immediately notify the school if your child or someone in the immediate family where the child lives has been identified as being confirmed as having COVID-19.

Third, within the school, we are adhering to the following protocol as precautionary measures and to limit the spread of all pathogens:

- Strict adherence to our policy of immediately sending home students and staff who become sick at school or arrive at school sick
- Provision of additional cleaning supplies for environmental cleaning
- All frequently touched surfaces (such as doorknobs, keyboards, tables) are cleaned with cleaners multiple times throughout the day.
- Ensuring that all students have adequate and consistent opportunities to wash their hands and use hand sanitizers.
- We are actively monitoring student and staff attendance, especially for absences that may be due to respiratory illnesses.

If (we hope and pray this is not a possibility), we have a confirmed case of COVID-19, we will be working diligently with our local health officials and the Archdiocese. They will determine the course of action based on the matter. This can include, but is not limited to:

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- Temporary dismissal of school for cleaning. In the event of a temporary dismissal, instructional activities will be done online.
- Cancellation of large school events
- Cancellation of all extracurricular group activities
- Cancellation of field trips

We will be updating you on any changes as they occur. Thank you for your cooperation, and may God bless our communities at this time.

God Bless,  
Dr. Janine Bertolotti