

February 27, 2020

## Communicable Illness Outbreak Monitoring Update Email

Email to Parents, Board of Directors, Faculty, Staff

On Monday, Brentwood's Administration, along with GISA leadership, a crisis management consultant firm and other GISA schools, will be participating in a webinar to discuss updates on the COVID-19 disease and to share response strategies and identify potential operational issues and questions. We will pass along pertinent information gathered from this meeting to our parents. In the meantime, please take a moment to read the following message from GISA President Jeff Jackson.

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We are monitoring the outbreaks associated with Coronavirus Disease 2019 and global pandemic. We continue to monitor advisories from the CDC and other health organizations.

Whether our GISA school's operations will be affected, and or for how long, is impossible to predict at this time. All outbreaks differ in their scope and severity. The duration of any mitigating action can only be determined at the time of the event locally, based on the characteristics and proximity of the outbreak along with instructions from medical, governmental, and global health organizations.

As you know, communicable illnesses spread from one person to another. The spread often happens via airborne viruses or bacteria, but also through blood or other bodily fluid. The terms 'infectious' and 'contagious' are also used to describe communicable illnesses.

Whether referring to a localized communicable illness, a regional epidemic, or a wider, pandemic event (outbreaks), your proximity to the outbreak has a direct coloration to the extent and severity of the consequences.

Control strategies such as social distancing, cancellations, cleaning, and closures may be directed by government entities and medical authorities to proclaim a state of medical emergency and exercise control while that declaration is in effect.

During an outbreak, the presence of overlapping authorities necessitates close communication and coordination among government officials and the community at large.

To help families prepare for potential impacts of Coronavirus as well as the seasonal flu, please encourage your parents to follow these actions at home:

- **Keep sick children at home.**
- **Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water for twenty (20) seconds.**
- **Cover coughs and sneezes with tissues, or cough into the inside of the elbow.**
- **Teach your children to stay at least 3 feet away from people who are sick.**
- **Contact us if you have specific concerns or needs.**

Since the safety of children always comes first, we will continue to provide updated information as necessary through email and will provide an opportunity for more information on our webinar scheduled for Monday, March 2, 2020.

Respectfully,  
**Jeff Jackson**, Ed.D.  
GISA President

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