



March 9, 2020

As we prepare for the return of students to campus this week, I want to update you on our planning with regard to the Coronavirus. We have a task force that is working to ensure that we are responsive to all the latest information and directions. We are relying on the advice being given by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and local health authorities to develop our plan of action. We will be meeting daily to access new information as it becomes available. This is a very dynamic situation.

At this time, there are no known cases of the coronavirus in Asheville. We are aware that the virus can spread rapidly and we are taking the following actions:

- Upon return from spring break, all students, faculty and staff will be screened for possible exposure to the virus. Students and all school employees are asked to provide information on their spring break locations as a part of this process. Please use the link below to complete the form by March 13, 2020.  
[https://www.ashevilleschool.org/cf\\_forms/view.cfm?formID=178](https://www.ashevilleschool.org/cf_forms/view.cfm?formID=178)
- We will take the temperature of all students when they return to campus as a part of the screening process.
- We are not aware of any students who traveled to China, Iran, Italy or South Korea during the spring break.
- If a student would need to be quarantined, we have plans that would involve them being placed in the health center and the daily operations of health center would be relocated.
- We will ask students not to hug or shake hands.
- While we will continue holding senior talks, they will be held in the gym so that students can have more distance between them. Chapels will also be relocated.
- We have cancelled the college fair scheduled for March 18, 2020.
- We will not hold seated meals for the immediate future. We will have buffet meals that will be served by food personnel from behind a line.
- Following athletic events, athletes will not shake the hands of their opponents. They will just salute from each end of the field.
- We are doubling our efforts to clean and disinfect the dorms, classrooms and common areas of the school.
- As a residential community, we are ever aware of concerns about any illness in the school. We ask students to wash their hands regularly. We will redouble our efforts to ask them to be constant in this behavior.
- Please send your child back from break with plenty of soap and sanitizer.
- Please have a talk with your child to make certain that they understand the difference between fact and fiction reading the Coronavirus. Social media provides them with much false and alarming information. They need to understand that according to medical authorities they are at the least risk for infection and severe cases of the virus. Please also recognize that the children will cue from your behaviors. This is a time to be sensical and not alarmist.

The safety, health and welfare of your child is our highest concern. We will do all that we can to ensure that they are well taken care of at Asheville School. We will provide you updates on a regular basis. If you have any concerns or questions, please direct them to Ben Williamson or Megan Grant. They may be reached at 828-254-6345.

Go Blues!

Dr. Anthony Sgro  
Head of School