

March 9, 2020

Dear Parents,

ECLC has been actively monitoring all updates and information regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19) from the Centers for Disease Control, the New Jersey Department of Education, and the New Jersey Department of Health. Our staff also participated in a conference call with Governor Murphy, the Commissioner of Health, and the Commissioner of Education last week. We are taking this situation very seriously and I would like to share with you some updates on how we are responding.

- 1) We have dramatically increased our cleaning and sanitizing protocols throughout the entire building.
- 2) We are making sure all students are washing their hands when they get off the bus, before lunch, and when returning from community-based trips and outside work.
- 3) We are asking our students not to high five or shake hands with each other.
- 4) We are encouraging our students to not touch their faces.
- 5) We are reinforcing students to cough into their elbow, or use a tissue that they will then discard into the garbage and wash their hands.
- 6) Our nursing department will continue to closely monitor student health.
- 7) We will separate sick students from others until they can be picked up to go home.
- 8) We have informed staff to stay home and families to keep their child home when they are sick.
- 9) Our clinical team is ready and available to meet with students who might be worried or concerned about this health issue.
- 10) We will continue to communicate information about infection control and COVID - 19 to families.

Since ECLC is both a family and community, we need your help as well.

- 1) Report any travel (or close contact travel) to high-risk areas (China, Iran, Italy, South Korea, or Japan)
- 2) Report any contact with community acquired COVID-19 infection.
- 3) Keep your children home when they are sick.

- 4) Have a plan for picking up your child if they become ill at school; students cannot go home on the bus if they have a fever.
- 5) Please encourage frequent hand washing.
- 6) Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer (at least 60%) when hand washing is not available.
- 7) Practice cough and sneeze hygiene at home.
- 8) Practice social distancing with your children.
- 9) For more information about COVID-19, please watch the webinar from Friday March 6, 2020 found on the American Academy of Pediatrics website <https://njaap.org/>
- 10) Frequently check the CDC <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/summary.html> and New Jersey Department of Health <https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml> websites for updates and continued guidance.

In the event there is a mandate from the Local or State Department of Health for ECLC to close:

- 1) ECLC will immediately notify families via telephone blast and emergency text – Please note that there may not be a lot of notice.
- 2) ECLC will continue to communicate information with you if a school closure occurs.
- 3) We are continuing to receive guidance from the Department of Education on how to manage a prolonged closure as it is distributed. We will share this information with you as soon as it becomes available.
- 4) We are actively working on a plan on how to continue educating our students if a prolonged closure were to happen.

Thank you for your patience and understanding during this time. We appreciate you working closely with us to keep our students, staff, and school healthy.

Sincerely,

Vicki Lindorff
Principal

Stephen Collins
Assistant Principal