



HEALTH & SAFETY UPDATE: FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Parents and Guardians,

(Scroll down for Chinese translation)

(请翻阅后面的中文翻译)

I'd like to thank you for your ongoing patience and support during what is definitely a very trying and stressful time for many in our community. As per our communications commitment of sharing updates every 36-48 hours, I'd like to share the following additional actions since our last major email communication.

What we currently know

- The World Health Organization has declared the new coronavirus outbreak a Public Health Emergency of International Concern
- The US State Department has issued a 'do not travel' advisory for China
- Up to 43 airlines have canceled flights to China amid coronavirus fears while many Hong Kong to Mainland services have been canceled or reduced
- **Currently, the school has been instructed to close until February 17th.** However, we are anticipating the re-opening date to be delayed from February 17th. As of Saturday, February 1st, we are waiting for official notification from the Guangdong Education Bureau. **If the school receives official notice regarding a change in the school's schedule, we will inform our community via email immediately**
- The Department of Housing and Urban-Rural Development of Guangdong Province has ordered all construction to be postponed. No restart date has been identified. Consequently, construction on the Science Park campus is postponed until further notice
- The U.S Consulate has approved **authorized departures** for non-essential Consulate staff. This means that those consulate employees in non-essential roles may choose to depart Guangzhou with their family and return to the U.S until it is considered advisable to return to China

What we've done

- Communicated closed status and school operational plan to the US Consulate in Guangzhou, the US Department of State Office of Overseas Schools, the Advancement Association for International Education, the East Asian Regional Council of Schools, Western Association of Schools and Colleges and the International Baccalaureate Organization
- Established close communication with other international school directors in Guangdong, other major cities in China, and throughout Asia via professional network systems
- Submitting daily reports to the local authorities regarding current school supplies and health status of our community
- Daily contact with PTA, Consulate Liaison Officers, and other key stakeholder groups to support the questions, concerns, and needs of the community
- Submitted a schoolwide operational plan to the local authorities regarding the measures taken by the school thus far along with plans to support the ongoing closure
- Created a website for our community to access that acts as a repository for all past schoolwide communications regarding the novel coronavirus, school closure, and online learning. The website is due for launch in the next 24 -36 hours.
- Created resources and tutorials to support the faculty in delivering, assessing and planning for learning opportunities to support students during the period of online learning
- Cash flow scenario planning and contingency planning means there will be no impact on our faculty and staff throughout the period of the school's closure as it relates to salaries and insurance coverage

What we're currently preparing for

- Supporting the needs of faculty members in preparation for online learning to come online beginning Feb 4th
- Supporting U.S Consulate families who have accepted an authorized departure as required

What we need you to be thinking about

- AISG advises its community members to heed all travel warnings and take appropriate measures when considering traveling
- Please continue to watch the [World Health Organization](#) and [Center for Disease Control and Prevention](#) websites for updates and for advice on how to take appropriate precautions during this challenging time

I'd like to thank you all for the support you are giving to each other during this trying time. As always, I encourage you to contact us at prepare@aisgz.org to share any questions, concerns, or feedback you may have.

AISG's Crisis Response Team is meeting every 48 hours to discuss the latest updates, concerns, and needs of our community. Please feel free to let us know what you need so we can support you in the best way possible.

Kind Regards,

Kevin Baker
Director
American International School of Guangzhou

亲爱的家长及监护人，

非常感谢您在这个非常困难时期给予的耐心和支持。按照我们每36-48小时通报一次最新信息的承诺，我想分享一下自上一封邮件报告之后我们新的举动。

我们目前所知道的

- 世界卫生组织宣布新的冠状病毒爆发为国际关注的突发公共卫生事件。
- 美国国务院针对中国发布了“禁止旅行”的建议。
- 多达43家航空公司取消了飞往中国的航班，同时许多香港对大陆的服务被取消或减少。
- **目前学校根据中国政府的指示关闭至2月17日**，然而我们预计学校重新开放的日期将会进一步推迟，我们期待2月1日周六得到广东省教育局的正式通知。**如果学校收到有关日程安排变更的正式通知，我们会立即以电子邮件通知大家。**
- 广东省住房和城乡建设厅已下令推迟所有工程建设。尚未有重启日期，因此，科学城的工程项目将推迟至另行通知。
- 美国领事馆已经批准了非必要领事馆工作人员的授权离境。这意味着，那些担任非必要职务的领事馆雇员可以选择带着家人离开广州，返回美国，直到被认为有必要返回中国为止。

我们已采取的行动

- 知会了美国驻广州领事馆、美国国务院海外学校办公室、国际教育促进会、东亚地区学校理事会、西方学校和学院协会以及国际文凭组织学校关闭的决定以及运营计划。
- 通过职业网络系统，与广东、其他主要城市以及亚洲的其他国际学校校长保持紧密的沟通。
- 向地方当局提交每日报告，通报我们学校目前的用品供应和人员健康状况。
- 保持与家委会、领事馆联络官和其他主要利益相关团体的日常联系，以协助解决大家的问题、担心以及需求。
- 向地方当局提交了一份全校范围的执行计划，报告了学校迄今为止所采取的措施，以及在学校关闭期间的计划。
- 我们创建了一个特定网站供AISG社区访问，该网站将作为一个存储库储存所有过去学校发布的有关新型冠状病毒的信件、学校关闭以及在线学习的通知。该网站预计在未来24-36小时内推出。
- 为教师进行在线教学、评估和学习规划创建资源和教程，从而使学生在在线学习期间得到充分的支持。

- 进行了学校关闭期间的现金流规划以及制定了应急计划，以确保我们的教职员工在学校关闭期间工资保险等不受影响。

我们正在做的

- 解决教师在准备在线授课过程中的需求，为2月4日在线课程上线提供支持。
- 为美国领事馆接受授权离境的家属提供支持。

我们需要大家考虑的

- AISG建议社区成员在考虑旅行时注意所有的旅行警告并采取适当的措施。
- 请持续关注世界卫生组织和疾病预防控制中心的网站，了解最新情况以及他们对如何在这个非常时期采取适当的预防措施的建议。

感谢大家在这段艰难时期里给予彼此的支持。一如既往的，我鼓励您通过prepare@aisgz.org与我们联系，分享您可能有的任何问题、担忧或反馈。

AISG的危机应对小组每48小时召开一次会议，讨论我们社区的最新情况、关注点和需求。请随时告知我们您的需求，以便我们能够以最好的方式为您提供支持。

谨致问候！

Kevin Baker

Director

American International School of Guangzhou