



March 9, 2020 – Communication 2

Dear Cardinal Newman High School Parents and Guardians,

As you are likely aware, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) is continuing to provide press conferences updating the country on the current status of the coronavirus (COVID-19), and what steps should be taken moving forward. We wanted to share with you some of the steps Cardinal Newman is taking to prevent the spread of illness across our campus, and plan for the possible spread of the coronavirus in our community.

As the CDC emphasized, there is ***not currently a coronavirus pandemic in the United States***. A pandemic occurs when a disease is spreading from a variety of sources across a large region, and the number of cases across the US is still small. However, given how quickly the global situation is evolving, we are monitoring new developments and will continue to reevaluate our steps and actions daily.

In the meantime, the most effective way to stay healthy and minimize the spread of infectious disease is to follow basic health best practices like:

- Enforcing great hygiene, like washing hands thoroughly and covering up coughs/sneezes
- Asking all faculty, staff, and students who are feeling ill to stay home until they recover

Our school community is prepared to alter our procedures and planning should the situation change, [including strategies like virtual schooling]. We are also thinking ahead regarding the impact of spring travel, upcoming school trips, and other non-typical school activities will have in the context of the coronavirus.

We will communicate any changes affirmatively when the time is appropriate. In times like this, we are particularly grateful for the strength and togetherness of this community. Please continue to look for further communications from us on this matter.

Cardinal Newman High School Safety Team

Laura M. Held, President

Graham Rutherford, Dean of Student Life

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