

Dear ONE Troy,

As a diverse international community with families who travel frequently, we understand that news of the novel coronavirus 2019, or COVID-19, can be concerning. We want to provide you with some information on what's happening here in Michigan and what the District's procedures are for students and families who have travelled to China in recent weeks.

First and foremost, there have been no confirmed cases of the novel coronavirus in the Michigan. The State Department of Health and Human Services publishes a continually updated webpage with the latest data and resources that you may find helpful: https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-71550_5104_97675---,00.html

On a more local level, we work closely with the Oakland County Health Division to understand what can be done to educate ourselves and our community, as well as what precautions we all can take to prevent the spread of this—or any other—communicable disease. The Health Division also has an excellent website with information and an easy to read fact sheet : https://www.oakgov.com/health/information/Pages/NovelCoronavirus.aspx

What does this mean for people who have travelled to China? U.S. citizens arriving from China are evaluated at special enhanced airport screening locations. Those who appear to have any symptoms of the virus (fever, coughing, shortness of breath) are referred for additional testing and medical attention. Anyone who does not show any signs of illness are advised that they should follow the CDC recommendation to self-quarantine for a period of fourteen days and see a health care provider immediately if they begin to see symptoms.

We have had several students return from visiting China since COVID-19 was first discovered. Our procedure is to follow the CDC guidelines and ask that students not return to school until the 14-day quarantine period has ended with no symptoms present during that time. New students enrolling in the District from China are processed under the same guidelines, with a 14-day waiting period from the time they enter the U.S.

Due to federal privacy protections, we cannot discuss any individual student situation, but we have looked closely at the records of students who have arrived here in recent weeks. We are not aware of any student currently attending school who has not already passed the 14-day period without symptoms. The Health Division and the CDC tell us that once that 14-day period is over, there is no reason to worry about students who have returned to school.

Again, we know that a new virus like this one can be very concerning, but the best way to protect ourselves is with accurate information—and the same simple recommendations the Health Division gives us for more common illnesses like the flu: washing your hands often with soap and water, covering your nose and mouth with a tissue when sneezing or coughing and avoiding sharing cups, utensils and close contact with people who are sick. For more information, please see this Fact Sheet:

https://www.oakgov.com/health/information/PublishingImages/Pages/NovelCoronavirus/Downl oad%20PDF%20Fact%20Sheeta.pdf If you have any additional questions, please consult your health care professional. As travel to and from China becomes more frequent in the coming months, we ask that families familiarize themselves with and follow the CDC guidelines to ensure that they don't inadvertently put others at risk.