



PRINCETON DAY SCHOOL

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Paul J. Stellato  
Head of School

January 31, 2020

To the Princeton Day School Community,

Following a statement from the World Health Organization, which just declared 2109-nCoV (coronavirus) a "public health emergency of international concern," I wanted to share with you steps Princeton Day School is taking to ensure the health of the school community.

As of this writing, there are no confirmed cases of coronavirus infection in New Jersey, although there is a recent report of one person-to-person transmission of the illness in the United States. Health experts continue to advise that the risk to our community and others is very low. Should they reassess the risk, we will reassess our practices and recommendations.

At this time, we will not make any changes to our academic, athletic or co-curricular programs. We have enhanced cleaning protocols across the school, and, working closely with parent groups, as well as those few outside groups that lease the facility, we have sought to ensure that all understand and follow the guidelines set forward by the school. Should we determine that circumstances demand a change to any part of the school's program or operation, I will let you know immediately. (There is still no word on the young participant at last weekend's Model UN conference at Yale, about which Candy Shah wrote to our community on Sunday.)

As the school seeks to ensure the safety of its students, parents, faculty and visitors, there is a role for you to play. If you or a family member has traveled to China in the last two weeks; or if you are in contact with anyone who has done so, we ask that you and they not enter our campus. Further, we ask that you call our health office (609-924-6700, ext. 1190) immediately.

In addition, I urge you to take a common-sense approach to basic hygiene. If your child is unwell, seek medical attention and allow him or her to rest and recover at home. Before your child returns to

school, he/she should be symptom-free for at least 24 hours. For respiratory symptoms such as cough, nasal congestion, wheeze and the like, you should err on the side of caution in deciding when your child returns to school. On occasion, should a child's cough be severe enough to cause concern here, we may recommend that he/she goes home. Let us know if you seek medical attention for your child; or if he/she has been diagnosed with a potentially contagious illness, such as the flu or strep throat. Finally, you and your family should wash your hands vigorously and often.

If you have questions on any matters related to your child's health or our school's response to this health event, please contact Candy Shah ([mshah@pds.org](mailto:mshah@pds.org)), your child's division head or me; and use the resources available through the school's health office. You may also want to check these on-line resources to learn more about coronavirus:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

<https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml>

Moving forward, I will update you as new information comes my way. As you have questions or suggestions, please let me or a member of our professional community know. Until I write to you again, we can take comfort in knowing that all of us can help to ensure the health and safety of the entire community.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'PJS', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Paul J. Stellato