

## SouthLake Christian Academy and COVID-19

### What do we know?

The World Health Organization officially categorized the COVID-19 outbreak as a global pandemic. The President of the United States imposed new restrictions on international travel. The Governor of North Carolina declared a state of emergency, recommended the cancellation of gatherings over 100 people, and ordered schools to close. The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services has recommended that employees telecommute to the greatest extent possible and that schools implement distance learning options if they have them. Cases of the virus have been reported in Mecklenburg County. The World Health Organization has confirmed that aggressive containment efforts can dramatically slow the spread of COVID-19. These are the facts informing our decisions.

### How are we responding?

SouthLake Christian Academy dismissed students for Spring Break on Friday March 13 until Monday March 30, at which time we will resume school instruction online, using a distance learning format. We will continue online instruction until at least April 3 and then reevaluate. Our teachers will meet March 16 to finalize our *Continuity of Instruction* plan and then distribute it to our community. We will continue distance learning in all classes and subjects until students can safely return to campus. I know this presents some significant logistical challenges for many of our families. We will do all we can to help. You will likely have many questions. We will have answers. For now, let me reassure you that although our buildings will close to students temporarily, SouthLake Christian Academy is open for business and will continue to provide your students with the education they deserve.

### What can you do?

1. School families, please complete our technology survey by clicking [here](#). This will take 60 seconds and will help us assist you with any technology needs you may have.
2. School families, please update your contact information by going to the "Family" tab in Renweb or the "School" tab in the Renweb app. Our faculty and staff will be in regular communication with you by email and phone in the days to come.
3. Please engage in good health practices. Wash your hands frequently with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are unavailable, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Avoid touching your face. Cover your coughs and sneezes with an elbow or tissue and then throw it away. Disinfect touched objects frequently with regular household cleaning sprays or wipes. Use social distancing to keep 6 feet away from others whenever possible. Seek medical attention immediately if you have symptoms of fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Call ahead and tell healthcare providers of your symptoms and recent travels.
4. Don't panic. Don't hoard supplies. Pay attention to medical facts from trusted sources. Place no stock in rumors. Maintain the calm demeanor that our children need. These actions support the common good.
5. Please pray for our nation, our state, and our community as healthcare preparations go into overdrive. Pray for our teachers and children as they continue to teach and learn.