



JUNIPERO SERRA HIGH SCHOOL

March 2, 2020

Dear Serra Parents and Families:

We are aware that there is anxiety surrounding COVID-19, the disease caused by the Coronavirus, and we want to assure our Serra community that we are actively monitoring the situation to maintain a safe environment for our students and faculty.

We will continue to pray for all of those affected by this virus and wish them a healthy recovery.

What is Serra doing to prepare?

- Daily meetings of the administrative team to review status and update protocols
- Monitoring communication on a daily basis from local health agencies, and specifically the San Mateo County Health Department to stay current on status and protocols
- Completed testing of Serra's emergency notification system for parents, students and faculty
- Communicating with students and families regarding appropriate preventive measures (see section on *Important directions for parents and guardians* below)
- Working with our janitorial service to ensure that the correct cleaning products are being used for disease prevention and defining protocols for daily cleaning of the Serra facility; Public spaces are being cleaned daily, including bathrooms, doorknobs, desks and computers
- Provided hand sanitizers in teacher classrooms and throughout the facility
- Reviewing emergency protocols in the case of an expanded emergency
- Conducting training with teachers and educational consultants to prepare for distance learning should there be a need to close the school for any length of time; Serra will communicate with parents to provide direction should distance learning become necessary
- Assessing school-related travel on a case-by-case basis in conversation with the travel companies, families and health agencies

Important directions for parents and guardians:

With an increased level of awareness around this illness, it is important that we rely on prevention measures both while at school and while at home. In order to ensure the safety of our community, we need your support in ensuring that students are not coming to school sick. The following direction is important:

- Students should stay home if sick.
- Students with a fever must stay home. Students are required to be fever-free for 24 hours prior to returning to school.
- Avoid close contact with people when sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

- If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- If you have not received a flu shot, it is not too late. For additional advice on flu facts and prevention, visit [cdc.gov/flu](https://www.cdc.gov/flu).
- If you have flu-like symptoms, it is likely the common cold or a common strain of the flu. Symptoms of COVID-19 include, but are not limited to, fever, runny nose, headache, cough, and the general feeling of being unwell; these also are symptoms of the common flu virus.
- If your son or a family member plans to travel internationally now or during spring break, we ask you to be extra cautious about screening for respiratory-related illnesses before sending your son back to Serra.
- If you have concerning symptoms, contact your primary health provider immediately.