

# AACS



A Message From  
Rick Kempton, Superintendent

March 12, 2020

## Dear AACS Eagle Community,

As I am sure you have heard, the World Health Organization officially named COVID-19 a pandemic, the first of the coronaviruses, which include MERS (2012) and SARS (2003), to reach this level. As a result, I want to share some significant changes to our schedule and more details about plans in place that prepare us for what may come while we hope for the best and pray for the Lord's protection over our community, our nation, and our world. Psalm 46:1 reminds, "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

**As indicated in the 1:15 p.m. text to our entire K-12 community, AACS will be closed tomorrow, Friday, March 13, for all students.** This includes all after-school sports and activities. AACS campuses will remain closed through the weekend to all rental customers and school-sponsored events in an abundance of caution and to do our part in minimizing the spread of COVID-19 in alignment with national and local health authorities' recommendations. I will keep you informed throughout the weekend should any new developments have an impact on our plans to hold school on campus next week.

With no known positive COVID-19 cases in our immediate AACS community, we still feel led to prepare in light of the rapidly developing public health situation. Tomorrow, faculty and staff will continue preparations for off-campus/distance learning should that become necessary in the near future. Principals and teachers are instructing students to bring home all learning materials and resources today just in case they need them.

To be proactive in reducing the number of large group gatherings, as recommended by the CDC and all Maryland health departments, AACS is canceling the following events. Events will be rescheduled on a case-by-case basis.

## Canceled Programs/Events/Performances

- ALS Grandparents Day, March 13
- You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown performances, March 13, 14
- AACS Community Meeting, March 16
- Middle School Social Media/Cyber Security Parent Night, March 19
- Spring Fling, March 23-26
- All off-campus, school-sponsored field trips and activities through the end of March.

If school is in session, all co-curricular and extra-curricular activities will be held. Although it is disheartening to cancel cherished moments in the AACS community experience, I am keenly aware of the prayers and support for the tough decisions being made to keep our students, faculty, staff, and families safe.

I strongly urge you to follow CDC guidelines for social distancing and limit your activity. Public Health is a shared responsibility to which we all can contribute. Please visit our [Health Guidelines and Information](#) page on the AACS website. Links to the WHO, CDC, MDH, and AACDH, as well as AACS-specific information related to COVID-19, is centralized for your convenience.

**In His Service and Yours,**



**Rick Kempton**  
**AACS Superintendent/Head of School**

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[www.aacsonline.org](http://www.aacsonline.org)