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Andrew Pulver, Ed.D.
Superintendent

March 2, 2020

Dear Members of the Los Alamitos Unified School District Community:

We understand that our students, families and staff are concerned about the global outbreak of coronavirus, also known as COVID-19, and we want you to know that safeguarding our students' health is always our top priority. We are working in close cooperation with the Orange County Health Care Agency, the California Department of Public Health and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to make sure that our District and school staff are receiving the most up-to-date information so that they can protect our kids' well-being.

We think it is very important to put the coronavirus in proper perspective: There has been only one confirmed case of coronavirus in Orange County, and that patient has recovered without any evidence of the virus having spread. The California Department of Public Health has determined that the health risk to the general public remains low and is not recommending cancellation of school or any public events.

Given the contagious potential of the virus and its continuing global spread, however, the situation could change. We urge all of you to closely monitor your health, as well as practice the same preventive care recommendations from health experts that we normally do during flu season:

- Wash hands routinely with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Cover a cough or sneeze with a tissue or sleeve.
- Do not touch eyes, nose, or mouth — germs are often spread this way.
- Do not share personal items.

If you or any member of your family develops any symptoms of respiratory illness — especially a dry cough, a fever (over 100F) or difficulty breathing — **STAY HOME** from work or school and contact a health-care provider immediately by phone. Closely follow their directions about how to obtain treatment and on when to return to school or work.

On our end, we are taking a number of preventative actions. We have reemphasized with our custodial staff the importance of thorough cleaning and sanitizing protocols for desks, keyboards, doorknobs, and other frequently touched surfaces in our facilities. We are also making sure all hand sanitizer and restroom soap dispensers are fully stocked, and teachers are actively encouraging their use.

We are also want to communicate the following special recommendation from county health officials: If you have been to China, Iran, Japan, South Korea or Italy and feel sick with respiratory symptoms within 14 days of leaving one of these countries, you should telephone your doctor immediately and seek guidance before returning to school or work.

Finally, we are working closely with county health officials to develop contingency plans for operating our schools in the event coronavirus begins to spread in our area. We will share more information with you in a timely fashion as events dictate.

To help you be fully informed, we have posted a [Coronavirus Awareness webpage](#) with up-to-date factual information about coronavirus (COVID-19) and expert guidance on how you can take precautions to minimize your risk of infection. We also will continue to update you on the situation in our District through email, social media (Facebook, Instagram and Twitter) and our [web page](#).

We greatly appreciate your confidence in our efforts in these uncertain times and thank you for your cooperation and support.

Sincerely,

Andrew Pulver, Ed.D.
Superintendent