

St. Augustine High School
Coronavirus Update
Monday, March 9, 2020

St. Augustine High School holds the well-being, health, and safety of students and staff as a top priority. With this in mind, we are writing to update you on an evolving health issue involving the coronavirus (COVID-19).

Dear St. Augustine parents and guardians,

Following the emergence of Coronavirus (COVID-19), we are working diligently to keep our school community as safe as possible. Following recently issued guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the Louisiana Department of Health and other local health authorities, we are taking recommended steps for schools that do not have COVID-19 identified in their communities.

We are consulting with local healthcare professionals in regard to coronavirus and infectious disease prevention. Medical experts and infectious disease professionals have emphasized that maintaining good hygiene and staying away from school or work when ill are critical to keeping our community as healthy as possible. As a result, we are reinforcing the importance of maintaining the following practices.

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water vigorously for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use a minimum 60% alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Stay home if you do become sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Fortunately, there have been no reported cases in Louisiana so far. We will continue to monitor information from the Center for Disease Control and work closely with both the Office of Emergency Management for the City of New Orleans and the Louisiana Department of Public Health to stay up to date on this evolving situation. We will keep you informed as our preparedness planning progresses.

Please join me in praying for the safety of our school community, and for those throughout the world whose lives have been affected by this virus. If you have additional questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to me. As always, thank you for your continued partnership.

Yours in Christ,

Gerald R. DeBose, M.Ed. Leadership '76

Principal

St. Augustine High School