



From: **Nancy Mellon** <[nmellon@riverschool.net](mailto:nmellon@riverschool.net)>  
Date: Fri, Mar 6, 2020 at 10:53 AM  
Subject: Coronavirus Update  
To:  
Cc: Tracy Armstrong <[tarmstrong@riverschool.net](mailto:tarmstrong@riverschool.net)>

Dear River School Community,

I want to assure you that we feel confident in our decision to have River remain open, as we have not been informed by anyone in our community that they have had exposure to COVID-19 (the novel coronavirus). In this uncertain time, we believe that it is important for children to remain in school and to continue their normal routines. We have no reason to believe that this is not the safest course of action for every member of our community. It is helpful to remember that children, in particular, seem less affected than many other segments of the population.

With Spring Break approaching, we want you to be aware of our current travel policy. The CDC cautions anyone entering the United States from a country under a level 3 Travel Health Notice to stay home for 14 days. For our students, this means that if a family member or someone else with whom they have had close contact has traveled to a Level 3 location, they must stay home and a remote learning plan will be put into place. A doctor's note will be required for those students to re-enter the school after the 14 days' self-quarantine.

As of this writing, Level 3 notices apply to China, South Korea, Italy and Iran. Anyone coming from a country under a Level 2 Travel Health Notice (currently Japan) should monitor their health and limit interactions with others. We expect every member of our community **to follow CDC guidelines and also notify the School of such travel. Please complete this online form with your travel plans.** Please contact Tracy Armstrong at [tarmstrong@riverschool.net](mailto:tarmstrong@riverschool.net) with any questions.

Secondly, we want to share our plans for handling the potential identification of a River community member. Schools in New York have closed for several days for intensive facility cleaning when a single identified case arose in their schools. This seems like a good first step. However, a longer closure is also possible and may be needed to protect the health and safety of our community.

Our administration, faculty and staff have been developing a plan for continuing your child's learning in the event of a mandated school closure. The **Continuity of Learning Plan** will be designed to provide an age-appropriate and grade-level curriculum with materials for your child to work on with you or another adult at home. An online component will be part of the Elementary School plan.

If you have an Elementary age child, all students should be prepared to participate. Students will need access to a computer or tablet and a reliable Internet connection. Multi-student households may need access to more than one device. If your family needs support with obtaining a device or Internet access, please contact Nicky David at [ndavid@riverschool.net](mailto:ndavid@riverschool.net).

For Preschool age children, interactive thematic materials will be provided including: theme vocabulary; math and literacy activities; and Arts & Sciences activities. We're also working on preparing theme- and book-related videos and audio clips.

We are here for you and your children, and appreciate your patience as this situation rapidly evolves. We will continue to be in touch to provide you with up-to-date information about ongoing school activities as those decisions are made.

Sincerely,

Nancy

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Nancy K Mellon  
Head of School