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March 13, 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian, School Districts, & Local County Departments,

I wanted to update you on the COVID-19/Coronavirus information. LaSalle continues to closely monitor the rapidly evolving situation regarding the Coronavirus (COVID-19); we are in touch daily with local and state officials regarding following expert guidance and protocols. While we have no confirmed cases at LaSalle, we are aware of concerns in the community about the spread of this relatively new virus and are taking actions that will help to slow or prevent the spread of the virus.

We have implemented preventive, monitoring and response plans. As of this communication, LaSalle programming remains largely unchanged, but with several added measures and precautions that have been recommended by State and National guidance. Should the need for program modifications occur, we will ensure that we communicate this with parents, guardians and other appropriate parties.

In the event that LaSalle becomes aware of any student, client, staff or family member is diagnosed with COVID-19, we will respond according to required and recommended best practices, and communicate this with various parties, such as parents/guardians and placing agencies.

We continue to encourage our students, clients and staff to wash their hands often and use practical measures to cover their mouth if coughing or sneezing. Your assistance in promoting these actions is appreciated. In the event we receive any further guidance from the CDC, State Ed, Department of Health, or other State agencies regarding any change in the daily operation of school or other programming, you will be notified. It is important to note that the most important thing we can all do to limit exposure and reduce transmission is to adopt the following standard preventive practices for influenza (the Flu):

- 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. Heavily soiled hands should be washed.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, throw the tissue in the trash, and wash your hands
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Not sharing food or drink with others
- Drink plenty of water, get adequate sleep.

The health and safety of our students and staff is our highest priority. Any parent, family member, visitor or colleague with any COVID-19 symptoms (cough, fever, trouble breathing, cold and flu-like symptoms) refrain from attending any on campus activities and contact your health care provider. If you are unable to attend appointments in person, alternate arrangements may be made, upon request.

MISSION STATEMENT

Through a dedicated and capable community of staff and associates, inspired by the faith and vision of St. John Baptist de La Salle, La Salle School provides therapeutic, educational and supportive services designed to accomplish positive, personal growth and lasting change in the lives of youth and families in need



In addition to regular communication with the State, the leadership team at LaSalle is meeting daily to discuss the situation and to plan for various responses. Should we learn that any student, client, staff or family member is diagnosed with COVID-19 or tests positive, we will respond according to required and recommended best practices. We have contingency plans in place should it be deemed medically necessary. These actions are and will continue to be based on medical and scientific information available and are aligned with guidance from CDC and other health authorities.

For those students who are enrolled in the educational setting at LaSalle school and receive Speech and Language services: Due to these recent events, The College of St. Rose has suspended classes at least through March 31st, 2020. As LaSalle School contracts for speech related services as noted on a child's Individual Education Plan, those services have also been temporality suspended. The St. Rose supervisor will attend all upcoming annual review meetings to coordinate communication regarding student progress until such time as our speech therapy students return to The College of St. Rose.

About Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Coronavirus (COVID-19) is a respiratory disease that can lead to fever, cough and trouble breathing or shortness of breath. While most confirmed cases (approximately 80%) lead to mild symptoms, there can be more severe cases, and even death, especially among older adults and those who have serious chronic medical conditions like heart disease, diabetes and lung disease. There are currently no vaccines available to protect against this virus. Like with all viruses and illnesses, there's a tremendous reliance on individual precautions. The coronavirus may cause mild to severe respiratory symptoms such as cough, fever, trouble Breathing and pneumonia. The CDC believes at this time that symptoms may appear in as few as 2 days or as long as 14 days after exposure to the virus. If you are experiencing these symptoms, please call your health care provider or the Coronavirus Hotline at [1-888-364-3065](tel:1-888-364-3065).

If you have any questions about this message, please feel free to contact me directly at the below number.

Sincerely,

David A. Wallace
Executive Director, LaSalle School
518-242-4731 x218