



March 11, 2020

Good Morning Connelly Community,

I want to keep you all updated on how we are handling the Coronavirus (COVID-19) concern. Please let me start by saying that we continue to pray for our close and extended community, past and present. We pray that we will all experience good health and remain safe.

While we are nowhere near the possibility of a whole school closure, as with all things, preparedness is essential for success. Recently I devised a protocol for teachers that will allow the business of school to continue should, for any reason, we are asked to suspend on campus learning for an extended period of time. I hope and pray that the protocol is unnecessary, but rest assured that should we need an immediate action plan for student learning, counseling, and academic support to continue off-campus, we are ready.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has continued to keep school administrators up to date on the most recent information available; the Orange County Superintendent of Schools is in communication as well. As of today, the CDC is suggesting that unnecessary social gatherings be postponed or canceled. While there is no evidence of “community spread” in Orange County, the CDC recommends limiting the potential for disease spread by limiting social gatherings. Currently, class plays scheduled for next week, Friday 20 March 2020 are still on schedule to occur however, I have decided to suspend food service (there will be no food trucks available). In addition, I am asking that any guest who is elderly or has an underlying health issue, seriously consider whether they want to be present in such a large crowd with people from various Southern California communities. Also, if you are not feeling well, whether it be a cold, fever, sore throat or general malaise, I ask you to consider staying home to rest and get better, and to avoid, potentially, getting others sick. I promise you that all class plays will be recorded and available for viewing from the comfort of your home. Should the recommendations for social gatherings change in the coming days or weeks, and such change necessitate the cancelation of Friday evening class plays, I will immediately inform the community via Eblast, recorded message, and on our website.

Please know that every event we have planned moving forward that celebrates the life of Connelly are extremely important to us, and we very much want to be able to move forward with them all. However, as information and suggested protocols change daily, I hope you will understand that events may have to be canceled and could be canceled day of. Please keep our country, and the world, in prayer as we navigate this time in our history.

In Peace,

Jacqueline Quiñones Sienkowski, J.D.
Head of School
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