

Dear Westerly Families, Faculty, and Staff:

We wanted to take a moment to assure you that we are committed to communicating with our Westerly community about the evolving news and information from public health agencies regarding the novel coronavirus, or COVID-19.

In response to global events, federal, state, and local public health agencies have provided public briefings in recent days. We are continuing to monitor these briefings and want to take the opportunity to remind families that the guidance from health agencies continues to follow our standard best practices to mitigate the spread of colds, flu, and other contagious viruses. These are the same recommendations for the coronavirus:

- **Stay home when you are sick.** Students must be fever free without the use of fever-reducing medication for 24 hours before returning to school.
- Encourage students and faculty to wash hands frequently.
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue or bent elbow.

The <u>Centers for Disease Control and Prevention</u> (CDC), <u>Los Angeles County</u>, and <u>Long Beach</u> health agencies have up-to-date information on their websites, which we encourage you to visit for detailed information. Any directives from the CDC and local governments should be followed. If your family is traveling internationally over spring break, please monitor the CDC and <u>State Department travel advisory</u> regarding COVID-19.

As always, the health and safety of your children are a primary concern for us. Please know if the current situation should change, we are prepared to alter our procedures and will continue to provide periodic communications on COVID-19. If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to reach out to our Administrative team.

-Westerly School

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