



Hello! A note from me to you.

MONTESSORI SCHOOL OF DENVER An update from Julie Bragdon, Head of School

Dear Parents,

The health and safety of your children are always our highest priorities. For this reason, we are monitoring the [Centers for Disease Control](#) (CDC) and the [Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment](#) (CDPHE) websites for the most up-to-date information about the Coronavirus. This is a rapidly evolving situation and we will follow the latest CDC and CDPHE updates in consultation with our school nurse at Children's Hospital Colorado for guidance on the most effective and sensible prevention measures.

As of yesterday, the CDC has issued a **Level 3 Warning**, advising against all non-essential travel to Wuhan, China. The virus may have been more widespread in China than has been reported, possibly putting our families who recently traveled at greater risk than was first assumed. The virus has a reported 14-day incubation period.

Out of an abundance of caution, we are asking families who returned from China as recently as last week (January 20-26), or if you have been exposed to someone who has, to consider self-imposing a 14-day quarantine from your date of return or date of contact with another traveler.

If you decide to take this action, please contact your child's teacher. Students' grades will not be impacted during their absence and our teachers will do all they can to make sure work and materials are sent electronically if possible.

From CDPHE: "We understand that new viruses like this can be worrisome, especially to students, parents, and staff. CDPHE echoes the CDC's statement that the risk to people in the United States is low at this time. Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that have been associated with respiratory illnesses such as fever, cough and shortness of breath. Some coronaviruses are common and regularly cause respiratory illness in the U.S. in the fall and winter."

The best way to protect us all, staff, parents and students, is by practicing good hygiene such as being sure to:

- wash your hands
- cover your nose and mouth when coughing and sneezing (We teach elbow sneezing at MSD!)
- stay away from others who are ill

- stay home when you're sick

Per MSD policy, please continue to safeguard your child and others by keeping your child home if these signs of illness are present until being symptom free for 24 hours:

- **An above-normal temperature**
- **A rash**
- **Abnormal discharge from eyes, ears and/or nose**
- **A cold with sore throat and/or cough**
- **Vomiting, diarrhea**

If you would like to discuss your family's circumstances or have questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. Thank you in advance for your understanding and patience as we work together for the health and safety of all our students. I look forward to staying in touch on this matter as warranted.



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