

Chief Sealth International High School  
2600 SW Thistle St  
Seattle, WA 98126



March 2, 2020

Dear Chief Sealth Families and Staff:

I am writing to share that a student's health is being monitored as a preventative measure in response to a possible exposure to the coronavirus COVID-19. The **student is not ill and does not have symptoms**, but in an abundance of caution, the district health services department has requested the student stay at home until further notice and guidance from Public Health Seattle & King County. School will remain open tomorrow, March 3.

The health and safety of our students is our top priority. Tonight, supplemental custodial staff are being brought into our school, they will target common areas in the building and surfaces, such as door handles, to be disinfected, and the building will be cleaned and ready for learning tomorrow. Central office health services staff will be working with the Chief Sealth admin team to assess and provide any additional resources that may be needed.

While the number of cases of COVID-19 in King County are increasing, the vast majority of the illnesses around the world are mild and include a fever and cough. However, a small percent of cases involve severe illness including pneumonia, particularly in elderly people and people with underlying medical conditions. **It's important that everyone take steps to reduce the spread of COVID-19, especially to protect those who are more vulnerable.**

The same good health habits that prevent other viruses like the flu also prevent COVID-19 spread. **We will be reinforcing these habits with students and ask that you reinforce at home:**

- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer, with 60% alcohol, if soap and water are not available.
- Cough into a tissue or your elbow (not your hand), then throw tissue away and wash hands.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid contact with people who are sick and stay home when you are sick.
- Keep students home if running a temperature or they report not feeling well, appear weak or ill.
- Consult your health care provider if you or your child has health conditions that put you at increased risk.

Our community values are tested in times like these. We must be united and support each other if the spread of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) becomes more widespread. At Chief Sealth, we will continue to demonstrate compassion and care as our greater community navigates this global health situation. We are aware of reports of discrimination related to COVID-19. In SPS we are committed to welcoming, safe, and inclusive schools, and we do not



tolerate hate speech or acts of discrimination. Help us prevent discrimination or stigmatization by sharing accurate information. COVID-19 infection is not connected to any race, ethnicity, or nationality.

This is a rapidly evolving situation. My goal is to keep you as informed as possible. The district continues to follow the guidance of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Public Health Seattle & King County in our response to COVID -19, including decisions to close schools and whether students or staff would need to be quarantined.

For up to date information and additional resources including how to stay healthy visit the district's coronavirus disease 2019 webpage  
[https://www.seattleschools.org/district/calendars/news/what\\_s\\_new/coronavirus\\_update](https://www.seattleschools.org/district/calendars/news/what_s_new/coronavirus_update)

If you have any questions, please contact me directly.

In partnership,

Aida Fraser-Hammer, Principal  
Chief Sealth International High School