

Coronavirus Update – 3/13/20 - Activities & Events

Friday, March 13, 2020 (2:30 pm) - We want to share several important updates that are directly related to Cretin-Derham Hall and the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

This afternoon, Governor Tim Walz has declared a peacetime state of emergency and President Donald Trump will soon be addressing us with updates from the federal government. We have prepared several scenarios that may result after today's statements by our governor and the president.

The news and information circulating about the Coronavirus (COVID-19) in the past 24 hours continues to reflect the seriousness of the pandemic and the local impact. At CDH, we are taking our school community's health and wellness very seriously, as well as our shared responsibility to meet the needs of our broader community's health. As stated yesterday, March 12, 2020, we continue to assess our situation, guided by the [Minnesota Department of Health \(MDH\)](#) and the [Center for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#), as well as several local experts in community health, including epidemiologists.

Most importantly, CDH has no known cases of COVID-19 in our school community.

We monitor our situation throughout the day and are prepared to respond as needed if this situation changes. The most up-to-date information will continue to be shared by email and will be posted on our website at c-dh.org/coronavirus.

At this time, the delay to move immediately to Online School is guided by recommendations of the CDC, MDH, and local epidemiologists. At this time, the MDH (along with the CDH) is [not recommending the closure of schools](#). There are scenarios that might cause us to move to Online School, but it appears that it is not warranted at this time. This is obviously subject to change.

*Students have been instructed to take all materials home each day that would be needed if we moved to **Online School**. Please work with your child to make sure they have all their materials – iPads, text books, notes - every night when they go home.*

Governor Walz and the MDH have released specific recommendations regarding [Strategies to Slow the Spread of COVID-19](#). Social distancing is critical to reduce the spread of the virus. To that end, these things have been cancelled or delayed:

1. We want to congratulate the **Boys Basketball** team on their win over East Ridge with a buzzer beater last night to advance to state.
 - a. *Just announced this afternoon, the Minnesota State High School League has **cancelled all prep sports** until further notice. Unfortunately, this includes the Boys Basketball Section and State Tournaments, as well as*

the Girls Basketball State Tournament. The Section Speech Tournament (March 15-21) has been postponed indefinitely. We will be getting more information on the Spring Sports season later today.

2. The **Intramural Volleyball Tournament** scheduled for this weekend has been cancelled.
3. All **Winter Sports Team Banquets** (Girls Basketball, Boys Wrestling, and Boys Hockey) have been postponed.
4. The **Mother/Son Banquet** scheduled for March 28 has been cancelled by the University of St. Thomas, where the event was being held.
5. The **Justice Education trip to Guatemala** this summer has been cancelled at the request of Friends of San Lucas Mission with our full support.
6. The **FIRST Robotics Program**, the national organization for robotics competition, has cancelled the rest of the robotics season and the championship events.
7. CSCOE's **Big Bang Stem Conference**, scheduled on our campus next week, has been cancelled and is moving to an online format with more information to come.

If anyone in your household is feeling ill, especially with symptoms associated with the virus, or has known exposure to someone who has tested positive for the virus, we continue to advise you to contact your physician by phone right away. If anyone in your household is tested for Coronavirus (COVID-19), it is important that you contact our school immediately, even prior to receiving test results.

We must work together to halt the spread of this virus and we appreciate your support and patience as we implement our Coronavirus Preparation and Response Plan. This is a fast-evolving situation and more information will be forthcoming in the days ahead. In the meantime, please visit c-dh.org/coronavirus for the most up-to-date news, as well as an archive of previous communications and resources.

Please refer back to our email yesterday, March 13, for critical reminders of how we maintain the healthiest environment at home and school.

We are keeping all our students, families and employees in our prayers.

Frank

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