

From: email@renweb.com on behalf of [Angie Bailey](#)
Subject: A Message from BCS Administration
Date: Thursday, March 5, 2020 9:56:08 AM

March 5, 2020

BCS Community,

The global status of the coronavirus (COVID-19) is changing daily and we are taking a calm, proactive approach to our navigation of the situation. With spring break approaching, we wanted to inform you about related information as it has been updated since our last communication with you on this topic.

First, we strongly recommend families not travel to locations with CDC or U.S. Department of State Level 3 alerts or higher. [See CDC Travel Guidelines](#). As it stands today, the countries listed are Iran, Italy, China, Japan, and South Korea.

Based on the CDC's current guidelines, a person who has visited a country elevated to Level 3 during the break must self-quarantine for 14 days before returning to campus. We ask that you stay informed, as the situation is likely to change rapidly in the weeks ahead. Many countries are now implementing new entry and exit control measures, as well as isolation protocols, with very little notice. **If you are traveling, these actions could severely impact your plans and/or delay your return to home and school.** We are working with our faculty to ensure students would not suffer academically due to any voluntary isolation.

Second, please know we are putting greater energy and focus on prevention and have taken many precautions to keep our BCS family as protected as possible:

- We have implemented more aggressive sanitizing measures to clean frequently touched surfaces and wipe down desks, doors, public spaces and bathrooms.
- Our office will be monitoring school absenteeism to review numbers in the event we should need to temporarily close.
- We will continue to monitor the CDC guidelines regarding both domestic and foreign travel.
- We are discussing remote learning options in order to continue coursework for students should we need to temporarily close. The options would vary by division.
- We remain in close communication with the organizations of which we are a part, seeking their expertise and advice on global travel risks including: Florida Council of Independent Schools (FCIS); Department of Education (DOE); Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). We also are in touch with our counterparts at other independent schools locally and nationally.
- We will continue to monitor the guidelines from the Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) for athletic events.

Please note the progression of COVID-19 is an evolving situation and, therefore, the recommendations also may change. We are monitoring everything carefully. In the meantime, **the standard expectation for all students is that they do not return to school if they are ill.**

We want to remind everyone that there are a number of steps that can be taken to avoid illness. We ask that our entire community practice healthy behaviors and talk to your child about the following preventative measures:

- Practicing frequent hand-washing and/or use of alcohol-based gels
- Covering coughs
- Avoiding sharing water bottles
- Avoiding touching your face or mouth
- Avoiding shared electronics (e.g. touching someone else's keyboard or phone)
- Staying home when you are sick
- Staying home until you are fever-free for 24 hours without medications that reduce fever

Please remember children take their emotional cues from the adult community. We encourage you to monitor your child's engagement in the topic and help them understand what they are seeing or hearing to avoid anxiety. We have listed several articles below on how to talk to your child in addition to other resources.

Finally, our prayers are with the many families around the world who have been affected by this outbreak. We are especially mindful of our own students and their families, for whom this issue may be a prominent worry or concern.

We are grateful you entrust your child to us and we do not take this situation lightly. We want to assure you we are putting unmatched efforts into prevention and preparedness and we will continue to monitor the status of COVID-19. If you should have any questions, please contact us. Thank you for your help as we take these prudent steps to keep our community as healthy and safe as possible.

Sincerely,
BCS Administration

Additional Resources:

- The World Health Organization (WHO) [website](#). This site has general information on the [coronaviruses](#), a [video](#), and an [infographic](#) about preventing the spread of viruses.
- U.S. State Department [website](#).
- <http://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/COVID-19/>
- Florida Department of Education: <http://fldoe.org/em-response/>
- Johns Hopkins Medicine, [Coronavirus Disease 2019 v. the Flu](#)

Talking With Your Child:

- NPR: Just for Kids: [A Comic Exploring the New Coronavirus](#)
- Child Mind: [Talking to Kids About the Coronavirus](#)
- New York Times: [How to Talk to Kids About Coronavirus](#)
- USA Today: [How Do You Talk to Your Children About Coronavirus?](#)

Our Verse for 2019-2020: "God did not give us a spirit of fear or timidity but of power, love and self-discipline." 2 Timothy 1:7

Our Mission: Bayshore Christian School is committed to challenging, developing, and empowering students for future leadership with a Biblical worldview within a diverse and nurturing environment, so that each student will follow the example of Jesus to "grow in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man." Luke 2:52