



**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EDUCATION ACTIVITY  
AMERICAS**  
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PEACHTREE CITY, GA 30269-3554  
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March 3, 2020

Dear DoDEA Americas Parents/Guardians,

The Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) is carefully monitoring the global impact of the Coronavirus (2019-nCov) outbreak, a respiratory illness, which has recently impacted DoDEA school operations overseas. We are following the guidance from *The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)*. Also, we are working with our military partners and health officials to monitor the situation and provide additional guidance, as needed.

We will continue to operate business as usual until circumstances or decisions made by DoDEA or our local education agencies change. At this time, we will continue student extracurricular activities and travel. No additional precautions have been advised for our schools at this time, but we stand ready to take further appropriate health and safety measures as determined.

While there are currently no reports of this illness in our schools, families are encouraged to visit the following sites for more information and travel guidance regarding the coronavirus:

- CDC's Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- A summary of the latest guidance from CDC is published via the Health Alert Network at: <https://emergency.cdc.gov/han/index.asp>
- Related Military Health System information and links to the CDC are at: <https://www.health.mil/News/In-the-Spotlight/Coronavirus>
- DoDEA Coronavirus page: <https://www.dodea.edu/Coronavirus.cfm>

According to the CDC, the best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. As a reminder, CDC recommends the following to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom, before eating, and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.

- If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.
- I ask for your help in reinforcing the recommended practices listed above at home with your children.

Additional information from CDC can be found at:

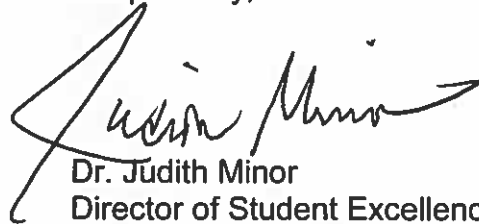
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/prevention-treatment.html>

Frequently asked questions from the CDC on the coronavirus may be found at:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html>

Our school nurses and staff will be working with students to promote good hygiene and to keep everyone healthy and safe. We also ensure that our schools receive a thorough cleaning every day. We will continue to monitor this situation, coordinate with our military health partners, and provide updates to our community should further steps become necessary. As always, thank you for working with us to keep our schools healthy and safe.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Judith Minor", written over a large, stylized flourish that starts with a large loop on the left and extends to the right.

Dr. Judith Minor  
Director of Student Excellence