



March 3, 2020

Dear Achievement Prep Families,

We are committed to the health and well-being of our scholars, staff and stakeholders. Communicating with home about issues that impact school communities is important to fostering strong partnerships with families, and we want to provide an important update around coronavirus

At this time, it is important to listen to facts and not respond to fear. Currently there are no confirmed cases of novel coronavirus in Washington, DC and the risk to Washingtonians remains low. On Friday, Mayor Bowser signed a [Mayor's Order](#) to establish DC Health and DC Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency as the lead agencies directing the District's preparation, monitoring and response.

There are no plans to close schools at this time. This is an extreme measure that can be disruptive to day-to-day life, and the decision to implement will be at the direction of public health experts.

However, transmission of the virus in other cities has raised our level of concern, and District officials are preparing for the possibility of person-to-person transmission in Washington, DC. Prevention is our priority at this time, especially during cold and flu season. Common coronaviruses can cause symptoms similar to a common cold, such as fever, cough, sore throat, and feeling unwell. The symptoms that are currently being seen with the current coronavirus infection are fever and respiratory symptoms such as cough and shortness of breath.

All Washingtonians should continue to practice general flu prevention measures including:

- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue or sleeve.
- Wash your hands regularly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. An alcohol based hand sanitizer can be used if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching your face, eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Get your flu shot – it's never too late.
- Stay home if you're feeling sick. Call your doctor and let them know your symptoms and travel history.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Please visit dchealth.dc.gov/coronavirus at any time for important updates.

We will continue to clearly communicate with our school communities about all ongoing efforts regarding the coronavirus. If you have any further questions, please email swright@achievementprep.org.

In partnership,

Shantelle Wright
Founder and CEO

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