



Office of Schools

March 5, 2020

May the Peace of Christ be with you!

As new information is received related to the Coronavirus and we get updates from the Florida Department of Education, I want to communicate with you on how we will be addressing upcoming challenges to the virus.

As it relates to international travel, I know that Spring Break and Easter are coming up. Many universities and colleges along with other public institutions will be requiring a 14-day transition before returning to school when travelling to China, Iran, Italy, South Korea or Japan. We will follow this same process. Please notify the school administrator if you have any plans between now and the end of the school year to travel to any of these countries. These are the countries currently on the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Travel Alert list. The list may change as time goes by. Schools will work with you so that learning can take place while students are in the self-isolation period at home before returning to our school campuses after the 14-day waiting period.

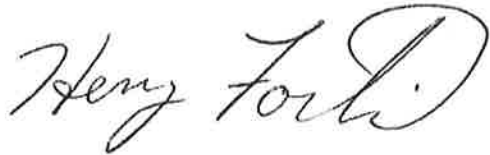
We are preparing for continued learning in the event of mandatory school closures by state or federal officials. School administrators are working with online learning platforms and various other delivery systems so that not just reinforced but new learning can take place. It will be required of every student in the event of a school closure to complete these assignments as they will be graded as if students are still in the classroom. Not completing this work as assigned will result in incomplete grades. Your Principal will communicate directly with you in the event of a school closure as to how the process unfolds at the local school level.

We will continue to follow the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), state and local health department recommendations as related to field trips and other school activities. At this time, they are not recommending any restrictions for field trips in the United States. If you are uncomfortable with your child attending a field trip, you may choose to keep your child home that day with an excused absence but there are no domestic trips cancelled at this time.

Let me reiterate that if a student shows any symptoms of having a cold, they will not be allowed to go to class. Parents are required to pick up the student immediately and not leave the student in school all day to limit the potential spread of any germs.

At this time, it is important to remember as a community of faith that we maintain a healthy perspective. It is easy to create panic, hysteria or even target certain groups of people. We will continue to operate from our Gospel-centered environment throughout this process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Henry Fortier". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Henry Fortier
Secretary for Education/
Superintendent of Catholic Schools