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Dear Parents and Students:

This message provides the latest information describing the District's plan for safeguarding the health and safety of our students, staff members and community members amid the challenges that we all face with the Coronavirus (COVID-19). According to respected health experts, the virus will continue to spread, with the potential for impacting large numbers of people that could test our existing systems. We must all work together during this challenging time.

Presently, we have no diagnosed or confirmed cases of COVID-19 within District 211 schools. If we learn of potential contact with the virus by anyone associated with the District's students or staff members, we immediately seek guidance from the Cook County Department of Public Health. Our response plans below focus on ways that our District 211 community can help prevent further spread of the virus and protect us all.

At the end of school today, Friday, March 13, all District 211 schools will be closed for students on Monday, March 16 and will remain closed at least through the end of the day on Sunday, March 29, the last day of spring vacation.

At the end of the school day today, Friday, March 13, all extra-curricular activities and school-sponsored trips, including all practices, competitions and events, are cancelled at least through Sunday, March 29.

Staff members will report to work on Monday, March 16 for in-service activities for potential future e-learning days in District 211. Emergency school closing days will be used for all students and staff beginning on Tuesday, March 17 through Friday, March 20. Potential e-learning days would begin if and when additional closures are warranted following spring vacation. You will receive additional information during the week of spring vacation via email and on school and District websites about the status of school activities for the week of March 30.

Preparation for E-Learning

At its meeting on March 12, 2020, the Township High School District 211 Board of Education authorized the District administration to establish an e-learning program. An e-learning program allows us to support students' continued learning experiences via electronic means in the event that we must close our schools following spring vacation. With e-learning days, we are making every effort to

deliver quality learning experiences and maintain the connection and care that our educators and staff members provide our students. E-learning will provide opportunities for students to remain engaged in their learning and with our staff members during a challenging period that could extend beyond a couple of days.

The success of an e-learning program depends on students having their school-issued iPad and charging cord with them. Today, school personnel will make announcements to remind students to bring home their iPad and charging cord. In the event that the District declares an e-learning day following spring vacation, your child will need their iPad to complete coursework.

Students and parents are encouraged to test their home Internet connection with your student's iPad. If you are experiencing difficulties connecting, please contact your Internet service provider.

Additional information about the District's proposed e-learning program is available [here](#).

Cancellation of All Student Activities

District 211 has also instituted multiple measures to help minimize risk to our students and staff members.

The District eliminated all international travel through foreign exchange trips. These cancellations include all student trips out of District 211 and all trips of international students coming into our District.

We have cancelled all school-sponsored trips, including those within the United States scheduled during spring break.

Again, during the weeks designated, all student activities have been cancelled.

Enhanced Cleaning and Good Hygiene

For weeks, District 211 custodial staff members have employed enhanced cleaning and disinfecting procedures throughout each District 211 school, including thoroughly cleaning all hard-surface and high-touch areas with an EPA-approved disinfectant. Similar enhanced cleaning procedures have been instituted daily by the District's transportation department on all school buses.

We are all again reminded of the essential, basic steps that everyone should take to prevent the spread of germs, including all of the following:

- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use hand sanitizer.

- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, and then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.

High School District 211 continues to monitor recommendations provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), and the Cook County Department of Health to determine appropriate steps to safeguard students' health.

Please check the District 211 and school websites for additional information regarding the impact of the Coronavirus in District 211. Information about the Coronavirus is available on the [CDC website](#) as well as on the [IDPH website](#).

In the event that any further action is needed, we will utilize our emergency notification systems to inform you of any changes to the plan we have outlined.

Thank you for your understanding and your contributions to our shared work of protecting all those associated with District 211.

Daniel E. Cates
Superintendent

You received this electronic communication because you provided your email address to High School District 211. Changes or updates to your email address can be made using [Infinite Campus](#). If you have questions regarding any of the information contained within this email, please call the high school for assistance with your concern.

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