**SMUSD Coronavirus (COVID-19) Community Update as of March 6, 2020**

The San Marcos Unified School District (SMUSD) takes the safety of our students and staff very seriously.  SMUSD continues to closely monitor the situation regarding the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19).  We remain in close contact with public health officials and will comply with all of their guidance.

SMUSD’s focus continues to be on prevention and preparation.  We maintain an inventory of needed supplies and we are working with our vendors to purchase more.  Schools are thoroughly cleaned on a daily basis.  This week, additional training was provided to our custodians.

Parents/Guardians, you can help us too!  If your child is sick, please keep them home from school.  To help prevent the spread of all respiratory viruses, follow these important tips:

* Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer when soap is not available;
* Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands;
* Avoid close contact with people who are sick;
* Stay home when you are sick and call your school to report fever or respiratory symptoms;
* Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, throw the tissue in the trash, and wash your hands;
* Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces;
* Individuals with chronic health issues and/or individuals experiencing severe symptoms should be evaluated by a medical professional; and
* Get the flu shot, if you have not received it already.

This week, local health officials updated their guidelines for when a student should remain home.  If your child has respiratory symptoms and a fever greater than 100 degrees F, they should remain home from school and abstain from other activities until the fever has subsided for at least 24 hours.  In addition, if your child has a severe productive cough, your child should stay home.

With Spring Break quickly approaching, we are aware that many of our staff and families use this as an opportunity to travel.  For a list of countries with COVID-19 travel advisories, visit [travel.state.gov](http://track.spe.schoolmessenger.com/f/a/SiiQ1fzNWoI-Optd0aN5MA~~/AAAAAQA~/RgRgRC8QP0QXaHR0cDovL3RyYXZlbC5zdGF0ZS5nb3ZXB3NjaG9vbG1CCgAAkPtiXgJFUI1SGmplbm5pZmVyLm1hY2hhZG9Ac211c2Qub3JnWAQAAAAB%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank).  SMUSD asks that if you travel to any affected country, that you follow all related guidelines to support the health and safety of our community.

All SMUSD schools will continue normal operations.

The District plans to continue sending updated communication regarding this issue.  The District also has a list of Frequently Ask Questions on its website which will be updated as needed.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and support.