

Dear OPA Parents and Students,

As you are aware, the concern and the effects of the coronavirus are evolving. It is our intent with this communication to provide you with general information, and with some specific details about OPA's current actions and plan.

The primary goal of OPA Administration is to keep our students, families, and staff safe. OPA Administration is actively monitoring the information and directives provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the local health department, local leaders, and the Utah State Board of Education.

What is known:

- The coronavirus, COVID-19, is new and causes respiratory illness.
- Most people diagnosed with COVID-19 experience mild symptoms.
- Similar to the flu, the people most likely to have severe symptoms and complications from COVID-19 are individuals older than 60 and those with other medical conditions.
- It is believed that COVID-19 spreads the same way the cold or flu spreads - through respiratory droplets produced with a cough or a sneeze. It is not thought to spread through infected surfaces.
- People are thought to be the most contagious when they are most symptomatic (the sickest).

What can we do now? As a school we are encouraging students and staff to do the following preventative actions. We appreciate your support from home as well.

- **Wash hands.** Washing hands regularly with soap and water is the best prevention. Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- **Cover your mouth when coughing or sneezing,** and then wash your hands.
- **Disinfect surfaces regularly.** Teachers, staff, and our cleaning contractors are working to keep the school as clean as possible.
- **Limit contact with those who are sick. Stay home when you are sick,** particularly if you are coughing, sneezing, or have a fever. Students and staff who present these symptoms will be sent home as soon as possible. If you have these symptoms, please stay home.
- **Limit unnecessary visitors at school.** Please limit your visits to the school. If your communication can be accomplished with a phone call or email that is preferred.
- If any member of your family is diagnosed with COVID-19, please contact the school and inform the office staff or administration. Personal health information is not released to the public. We will inform students and staff of a possible exposure, and it will help us continue with our planning.
- We will work with families to offer solutions for any student who is missing school due to their own illness, or for those who are particularly at risk for contracting illnesses.

Current and Next Steps.

- We are working closely with state and local officials to make the best decisions for our students. All parties are working together to consider the severity of the disease, benefits to public health, impact on student learning, families, childcare, school staff and the economy.

- Because most people with COVID-19 have mild disease, the likelihood that the Health Department will recommend school closure is remote, but not zero.
- Communication
 - We will post updates on our school website, ogdenprep.org, on the school facebook page, and in the windows of the school buildings, and we will send it out via email to parent contacts as listed in Aspire.
- Field Trips
 - We are monitoring each field trip that has been planned as it approaches. We will consider risks individually, and we will cancel any trips that may put students and staff at unnecessary risk.

In the event of a school closure:

- School Breakfast and Lunch: OPA will continue to provide a grab-and-go breakfast and lunch. We are working to develop options for hot lunch options as well as traditional sack lunches.
 - Drive up or walk up. Families can come through OPA's "drive through" and collect food. Those who are walking, will be directed to a pick up point.
 - Breakfast will be available from 7:30 am to 8:30 am;
 - Lunch will be available from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm.
- Special Education Services: OPA will continue to provide services via an online platform or other method to be determined by the IEP team on an individual basis. We are working with our technology department to determine the best way to provide these services.
 - Planned meetings will be held over the telephone or via video conference platforms. Your special educator may reach out to you to set up an early meeting.
 - Internet access at home: A brief survey regarding computer and internet access at home will be sent to help us prepare. We will work with families without adequate technology access to determine the best way to provide services.
 - You have the right to waive special education services during any period of school closure.
- Teaching and Learning
 - Teachers will do their best to provide work for students through digital means: Canvas, Google Classroom, Blooms, email. We are working with our teachers to start planning for options.
 - Please feel free to contact your child(ren)'s teacher(s) to coordinate.
 - We understand that digital connectivity may not be available to all families, so we will provide as much information as possible.
- Do we have to make up for missed days?
 - The Utah State Board of Education is working with the federal government to determine if days missed due to school closure will have to be made up (similar to a "snow" day). There may be a possibility for a closed school to obtain a waiver to the days and hours of operation requirement. We will provide additional information whenever we have it.

We will continue to update our communication as we receive more information. Keep washing your hands!

Stephanie Mathers - Junior High Principal