

Dear Students and Staff:

We know that many of you are concerned about what you have read or seen on social media and in the news about the 2019 Novel Coronavirus known as COVID-19, often referred to as “Coronavirus,” in the United States.

As of today, March 6<sup>th</sup> at 1:45pm, the state of South Carolina has no confirmed cases of COVID-19 per DHEC (<https://www.scdhec.gov/health/infectious-diseases/viruses/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19>).

However, we will continue to monitor the situation through the CDC and SC DHEC in order to implement any recommendations or guidelines they develop.

While a new type of illness can be scary, we can protect our students, staff, and the broader community by using commonsense, everyday actions that protect people from any type of respiratory virus.

We will continue to follow the CDC’s recommendations for preventing respiratory illnesses. These include reminding staff and students to:

- wash their hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- avoid touching their eyes, nose, or mouth.
- stay home when sick.
- cough or sneeze into their elbow or use a tissue and put it in the trash immediately.
- clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- avoid contact with sick people.
- get a flu shot.

Remember, too, that it is important to maintain all safety/sanitation and disinfection procedures.

Staff and Students: If you are running a fever higher than 100 degrees Fahrenheit before taking Tylenol, Motrin, or other appropriate fever-reducing medication, then please stay at home. Once the fever breaks and you no longer have a fever (without Tylenol or another product in your system), please remain at home for another 24 hours.

Please consult your physician if you have any concerns.

For more educational information on COVID-19, please go to: <https://www.scdhec.gov/health/infectious-diseases/viruses/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/educational-outreach-materials-2019-ncov>

Thank you for helping us keep our students and staff healthy.

Leadership Team