



March 12, 2020

Dear OCEAA Community,

Last night, the California Department of Public Health provided the latest guidance on Coronavirus COVID-19. OCEAA leadership has continued to follow State and Health Department guidelines along with the latest recommendations from California Department of Education (CDE), Orange County Education Department of Education (OCDE) and Santa Ana Unified School District (SAUSD).

OCEAA is taking immediate, proactive measures to mitigate the impact on the OCEAA community and safeguard the health and well-being of our students, families, and staff.

As information with COVID-19 continues to develop, we want to make sure we are preparing for different scenarios. Following the lead of the Orange County Health Care Agency, California Department of Education, Centers for Disease Control, and the California Department of Public Health, we are preparing contingencies for every possibility, while addressing the academic needs of students and ensuring the safety of our students and staff.

**While we continue to have zero presumptive or confirmed cases of COVID-19 at OCEAA and even across SAUSD, we are augmenting our preventative measures to include the following.**

**Gatherings (as of 3/12/2020 - Until Further Notice):**

The California Department of Public Health [has made recommendations](#) for non-essential professional, social, and community gatherings such as concerts, conferences, and sporting events to be canceled or postponed.

**However, this guidance does not apply to activities such as attendance at regular school classes, work, or essential services.** Governor Newsom described schools falling under the “essential” activities category in a [press announcement](#) today. As an extra precaution, OCEAA has cancelled all field trips, events, workshops and other activities that bring groups of adults into the school.

**How long will these limitations apply?**

This guidance will remain in place at least through the month of March or until further notice. To stay informed, continue to monitor this link:

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/Pages/Guidance.aspx>



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### **Instructional Plan**

As part of proactive planning, OCEAA leadership, teachers and coordinators are working on a contingency plan for instruction in the event of school closure. We will continue to closely monitor developing COVID-19 updates through various media platforms and will communicate promptly should the need to activate any contingency plan for instructional delivery arise.

### **Lowering Risk**

In the meantime, hand washing, proper respiratory etiquette, and staying home while ill remain the best illness prevention strategies. Staff and students are being reminded to wash their hands often, before meals, and after coughing or using the restroom.

The following video from the CDC about proper handwashing is being sent to school sites for viewing <https://youtu.be/eZw4Ga3jg3E>

### **Facilities**

The OCEAA facilities and night crew are working diligently to clean all high impact areas such as doorknobs, handrails, and push bars, with extra attention being paid to school restrooms. While we are emphasizing these points at school, it is important that parents take some time to reinforce handwashing at home as well. According to the CDC, handwashing is vital to limiting the spread of the coronavirus and other illnesses.

### **Communication:**

We are dedicated to keeping our OCEAA families informed swiftly and often as this is an evolving situation. In the event of a school closure or disruption, we will communicate via our communications systems (Email and social media platforms).

As a reminder, if your child is sick with a runny nose, sore throat, cough, nausea, muscle aches, or other symptoms, please keep them home from school. All students with fever should remain home from school and other activities until they have no fever for 24 hours, without fever-reducing medication.

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring the health and safety of our OCEAA family.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Limon".

**Mike Limon**

Executive Director



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