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## Coronavirus Update 2

1 message

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Gregory Arte <arte@brooklynjesuit.org>

Thu, Mar 12, 2020 at 12:41 PM

Bcc: [REDACTED]

Hello BJP Community,

With the continued spread of the Covid-19 virus, I would like to update you as to the guidelines we are receiving from the DOE and state health officials. Please read through this message fully so that it can serve as our communication without tying up the phone lines. To keep track of the growing amount of updates, we will continue to email you but will also post our most recent communication on our website at: <http://www.brooklynjesuit.org/coronavirus-updates.html>

We continue to review DOE, health officials, and other educational institutions' updates. As we do this, it is important to remember that BJP is NOT a DOE school. The news outlets will report on DOE policy, which we use as a reference for our policy and decision making. However, these do not necessarily apply or are binding to BJP. If there are ever any questions, please let me know and I can clarify the DOE's policies and what BJP is doing. We will update evolving policies to you through emails such as this that are posted onto the website above.

The one main policy we ALWAYS follow in conjunction to NYC public schools is closing due to city emergencies, such as weather. If ALL public schools close due to precautions to the Coronavirus, so to will BJP. Currently, the health department's plan is to respond to school closures in a targeted, individual way. Of course, being a fluid situation this may change.

**Our top priority in reviewing their policies is to inform us as to how to continue to keep our community safe and healthy.**

Our role in helping contain the spread of the virus remains ensuring our community is healthy. This means that while state officials monitor the spread of Covid-19, it is our duty to ensure other illnesses such as the seasonal flu and the common cold are mitigated. Doing so helps ensure a healthy population that does not overwhelm the health services and that can more effectively combat the new virus.

To that end, we continue to do the following:

- Keep supplies stocked beyond the recommended 10 day inventory.
- Reinforce hygiene and sanitation/disinfection procedures.
- Seek guidance from health experts through regular updates.

If a student becomes sick at BJP with any illness, they will be evaluated by one of the staff members with first aid training as we normally do. The state has asked we provide students with any illness a mask and determine rooms where they can wait away from the general population. Both have been established.

**If your child is feeling ill for any reason, please keep them at home until symptoms have passed and return to school with a doctor's note.** Again, this is not to incite fear that students have contracted the Covid-19 virus as the overall risk remains low, especially for school aged children, but in order to ensure the overall health of our community is as strong as it can be. Otherwise, attendance at school remains in effect.

The state has provided BJP with how communication would be handled between school and government officials should there need to be more drastic measures specifically for our building. This obviously includes informing everyone in our community and we have reviewed these procedures so that we are ready (email and phone systems will be the main lines of communication just like in cases of snow). Teachers are spending Friday afternoon planning what to do should an extended closure ever happen so that some small amount of learning can continue.

BJP will be limiting activities at school to outside visitors. The administration will meet at the end of each week to review plans for the next week. Below are changes decided for next week:

- Career Day has been postponed.
- 5th grade service tomorrow has been adjusted.
- Saturday Program on the 14th is cancelled.

- The school play on the 17th at 6pm will be cancelled. We will video record the play for people to watch at home.
- The 5th grade parent meeting on the 19th will be postponed. It is tentatively rescheduled for April 23rd.
- Whole-school assemblies will no longer take place starting on Monday. Teachers will hold assembly in their homerooms.
- Tutors will not come into the building until further notice.

You will likely still receive permission slips and such to plan for the future. Please continue to complete the papers in your Friday Folder so that no matter what happens we are prepared for programs.

If you ever have any questions, please let me know. I will inform you of new guidelines in a weekly update, if not sooner should circumstances dictate.



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