

TCS Update from Head of School David Rowe

March 12, 2020

Aloha TCS Parents-

The end of spring break brings us to the final stretch of the 2019-20 school year. In 11 short weeks, we will be graduating our 8th senior class and beginning summer break. The COVID-19 virus is providing some unexpected challenges for this year. This email will serve as an update to the email sent on 2/27/20.

Trinity Christian School is actively monitoring the COVID-19 issue locally, nationally, and internationally. We will continue to follow the guidance of the Hawaii Department of Health (HDOH) and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). We will take an active role in the prevention of COVID-19 as well as all illnesses transmitted by human to human contact. To that end, we have implemented the following protocols, reflecting CDC guidelines for K-12 schools.

1. Teachers are disinfecting high touch surfaces with increased frequency in the classroom.
2. The cleaners and administration are disinfecting commonly used high touch surfaces.
3. TCS will track students with flu symptoms for general record-keeping and on-going evaluation.
4. Parents are required to keep their children at home when sick with flu-like symptoms, and the child must be fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medicines.
5. Teachers are required to remain at home when sick with flu-like symptoms and must be fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medicines.
6. Teachers and students who exhibit flu-like symptoms at school will be escorted to a designated space on campus, and arrangements for immediate pick-up will be required.
7. The Administrative team is evaluating the cancellation of optional events. Unfortunately, the Safe Online Surfing Workshop on 3/26 has been canceled to minimize risk.
8. We have established a dedicated section on our website to provide a quick reference for the TCS community. Please click [here](#) to access the section. This information will be updated as needed.

If the school is required to close, it would of course be unfortunate and disruptive to all families at the school. Please be assured the school will only close if there is no other option to ensure the health and safety of our TCS families, and only in consultation with HDOH. These are the steps currently in progress if TCS was forced to close the school:

1. Teachers K-12 are being trained in a distance learning program, allowing instruction to continue through a home computer. Parents should consider their preparation in this event (i.e., computer and internet availability, etc.)
2. In the event of a school closure, parents will be given the information necessary for students to study at home using the distance learning program. The alternate learning program will naturally vary according to the age of the students and the material needing to be covered.

There is a need for the entire Trinity Ohana to be diligent, responsive, and informed as it relates to COVID-19. Unfortunately, there is not a precedent set for how a situation like COVID-19 is managed locally, nationally, and internationally. TCS, like all affected schools, is involved in a daily process of learning and decision-making, and we will continue to protect our families while educating our students.

You might be interested in this helpful [form](#) for your own planning within your home,

If you have any concerns, please respond to this email, and we will do our best to respond in a timely manner.

Grace and peace,

David Rowe
Head of School