

Coronavirus Update
March 10, 2020



Dr. Deborah O'Connell, Superintendent of Schools

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Dear Croton-Harmon Parents:

Since my last update on March 4, I have been in regular contact with colleagues and County officials regarding the latest information and guidance on coronavirus, which is now being called COVID-19.

At this time, we have no knowledge of cases of COVID-19 among faculty, staff or students in the Croton-Harmon school district. As such, our schools remain open and we continue to operate on our regular schedule. We have, however, suspended certain class trips that were scheduled for this week and last out of caution. We will assess school events and future trips. Furthermore, our international exchange programs have been canceled. Our principals and trip/event coordinators will communicate directly with families about the status of school events and class trips.

Yesterday, the New York State Department of Health and New York State Education Department issued guidance for schools with students, teachers or other staff who test positive for COVID-19. Under the guidance, schools will close for an initial 24-hour period if a student, teacher or any other staff at the school test positive for the virus. This will allow the school to undergo disinfection, and for the State to perform an assessment of the situation and make a determination going forward for that particular school district.

We, of course, will stay apprised of guidance from the State, as well as from our County officials, and share updates with you as they are made available. We also continue to follow our cleaning and disinfecting protocol and, as such, access to some buildings may be limited or restricted at various times. We will communicate with you about building closures along with any other information pertinent to our district.

Should you have any questions or concerns, I encourage you to contact your child's principal and/or nurse. You may also find that this recent [New York Times article](#) provides some useful

tips on speaking with your child about the virus. Thank you again for your ongoing support and partnership.

Yours in ***Mission Possible***,

Dr. Deborah O'Connell



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