March 6, 2020

Dear Parents,

At Global Impact STEM Academy, the health, safety, and well-being of our school population is our top priority. With the recently elevated discussion regarding the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in the news, we want to take a moment to reinforce preventative safety measures and reference our process and communications.

First, it is important to remember that at this time, there have only been a small number of confirmed cases of coronavirus in the United States. There are currently no confirmed cases in Ohio and officials say the risk to the general public is currently low. As a school district, we are closely monitoring the situation and taking guidance from the Clark County Combined Health District, Ohio Department of Health, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

We encourage our students, staff and families to be mindful of key preventative measures for avoiding the spread of this, and other illnesses, as outlined on the CDC website, which include:

- Wash your hands regularly, especially after using the restroom and before preparing or consuming food. Using soap and hot water, wash for about 20 seconds. Be sure to also wash your fingertips.
- Avoid coughing or sneezing into your hands or in the air. Always try to cough or sneeze into a tissue, and then throw the tissue away. If you don’t have a tissue, cough/sneeze into your arm (elbow area).
- As much as you can, avoid touching your eyes, mouth and nose.
- If children are feeling sick, please keep them home from school. Allow them some time to feel better so that they don’t risk infecting others. Children should be fever-free, without medication, for 24 hours before returning to school.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces or objects, especially frequently touched areas.

Once again, please remember that if children are sick, they should not be at school. Students need to be fever-free, without medication, for 24 hours before returning to class after any illness. Keeping children home when they are sick is critical to prevention.

We will be adding a tab to our website with additional links and information provided by the Clark County Combined Health District, Ohio Department of Health, and the CDC.

We are fortunate that the Springfield City School District (SCSD) provides all of our housekeeping and custodial services per our lease here at The Dome. The SCSD will be applying the same criteria to our school as they do for any of the other schools they serve in their district. The SCSD custodial team has worked diligently to disinfect classrooms, share areas and restrooms through the use of a hospital grade cleaning tool. The tool is used on surfaces and is 50 times more powerful than bleach. WE are thankful for their dedication to providing a safe and clean environment for our students, families, and all of the GISA staff.

Ultimately, we are reviewing our emergency operating procedures and following the advice and guidelines set forth by local, state, and federal health organizations. Things can, and probably will, change rapidly based on the information that we have available to us. Be assured that we are taking all necessary precautions to keep our school population safe, while continuing to provide the incredible teaching and learning opportunities that exist at Global Impact STEM Academy. With your support, we can work together to prevent illnesses and keep our school a healthy and safe learning environment for all. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the school.

Sincerely,

Joshua Jennings
Founding Director