

# SMMUSD: Coronavirus (COVID-19) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

(Updated 3/17/2020)

The information we provide to you about COVID-19 will change rapidly. Today, the following FAQ should help provide some clarity however be aware that we will update you with any new information as it evolves.

## HEALTH ALERT!

**Symptoms** 2-14 days after exposure ranges from **Mild** (which helps it spread easily) to **Severe** and **Fatal**

**CALL YOUR DOCTOR** if you experience: **Fever, Cough** or **Shortness of Breath**

**CALL 911:** If you experience **Difficulty Breathing**

## Keep yourself and others Safe

- **Social Distancing**
  - STAY HOME when you or anyone in your household are sick
  - Maintain 6ft distance with others
  - Limit ALL contact to within household
  - NO PLAYDATES OR FRIENDS GETTING TOGETHER!
- **Hand Hygiene**
  - Wash Hands or use Hand Sanitizer frequently
  - Don't Touch your Face
  - Cough/Sneeze in elbow
- **Clean & Disinfect high Touch Areas**

## [Complete health information on COVID-19](#)

**School closures:** All Santa Monica and Malibu schools, Child Development Services and Adult School for five weeks, with the planned return of April 20, 2020. This closure includes three weeks of regular session and two previously scheduled weeks of spring break. Effective, Tuesday, March 17, 2020, SMMUSD offices and schools are closed. We will be evaluating during this closure to determine whether an extension is recommended, or we may safely return to school on April 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Meal service:** While our school facilities are closed, beginning Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, children enrolled in any SMMUSD school or program will be able to pick up free breakfast and lunch from 7 to 9 a.m. at the following schools: Santa Monica High School, McKinley Elementary, Will Rogers Learning Community in Santa Monica and Webster Elementary in Malibu. SMMUSD families may go to any of these schools even if not enrolled there. All students under the age of 18 will be served. A parent or guardian must be present, except high school students may participate on their own. We are providing grab-and-go bagged meals.

If you or your child are sick, do not come to school.

o Rogers, McKinley and Webster pick up will be at the front of the school, either right out front, or in the usual drop off/ pick up drive through. Samohi pick up will be at the 7<sup>th</sup> and Michigan gate. (Please note the time change from Friday's email to 7-9 a.m.)

**Resources for students, families and staff:** The SMMUSD student services and mental health services team has compiled these [resources](#) for students, families and staff during the Coronavirus pandemic and school closures.

**The Salvation Army Santa Monica Corps** will be open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. to provide food boxes for families in need, beginning Wednesday, March 18, 2020. Families can obtain one food box per week until further notice. If you are unable to come during this time or for additional information, please contact us at (310) 451-1358. To donate to our local disaster relief operation, please visit [www.santamonica.salvationarmy.org](http://www.santamonica.salvationarmy.org). All donations stay local to the community we serve.

**Continuity of Learning:** Our staff and teachers have thoughtfully developed materials and lessons to continue the continuity of learning for your student during this time. Your principal or teachers have reached out to you at this time so that our students may have continuity of learning during the first three weeks of this closure. There will not be planned education during spring break. Your school sites will let you know how to keep in touch during this closure.

**School sites are closed with intrusion alarms activated.** If you see something unusual at a school, please report to local law enforcement and report to [www.WeTip.com](http://www.WeTip.com).

**School websites** have a designated coronavirus webpage where specific site information will be posted. The district continues its website: [www.smmusd.org/coronavirus](http://www.smmusd.org/coronavirus)

**Internet / devices at home?** Secondary families (grades 6-12) are being asked to take a short [survey](#) regarding access to internet and availability of a device at home while school is closed. We appreciate parents letting us know if either is needed and our team will be in touch with you. We want all students to continue learning during this closure. Direct link: <http://bit.ly/2w6xN4z> (If you have taken the survey, thank you! No need to take it again.)

### **How will Spring Break be impacted by COVID-19?**

If you plan to visit a country or place (keep in mind, the CDC could declare warning areas within America) that is at Warning Level 3 or Alert Level 2 according to the CDC you must report this to your Principal or Supervisor. Your child will be required to stay home and away from fellow students for 14 days **after your return** to Los Angeles and before coming back to school. This includes staff members, too. This is the standard self-quarantine period recommended by the CDC. At the moment these countries include China, Iran, Italy, South Korea and Japan. Any absence due to quarantine or illness will be excused.

Please check here for up to date travel warning information:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>

### **Hand Sanitizer vs Hand Washing, what wins?**

The most effective way to keep germs at bay is to wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap. We are working toward increasing the availability of hand sanitizer at every school and the district offices, but this does not replace hand washing.

## Do we need masks?

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) does not recommend routine use of a facemask or respirator. It is important that we do not deplete stock from those who need them for other illnesses.

## I purchased tickets to Stairway and it has been cancelled. Can I donate or get a refund?

Should you decide not to request a refund, your contribution would be graciously appreciated, and will be used to cover the costs associated with Stairway up to this point. Some of the anticipated expenses incurred thus far include: extra instructional hours for Honor Elementary Students, sheet music, guest conductor expenses, and printing of programs. The following are instructions for receiving a refund for Stairway of the Stars tickets:

- If your tickets were purchased through Brown Paper Tickets: You can contact Brown Paper Tickets directly to request a refund, minus their processing fee, at 800.838.3006. We apologize that the processing fee is non-refundable.
- If your tickets, dedications, or videos downloads were purchased through PayPal, please email [stairway@smmusd.org](mailto:stairway@smmusd.org) with your PayPal receipt and the request will be processed for you.

If you purchased T-shirts or other items, we are unable to provide a refund. We hope you enjoy these undated items!

## Where may I find additional information?

Please use only official agency outlets to obtain information, for example:

- Los Angeles Dept of Public Health:
  - [Coronavirus FAQ's \(English\)](#)
  - [Coronavirus FAQ's \(Spanish\)](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#)
- [CDC Guidance for Schools](#)
- [California Department of Public Health](#)
- [City of Santa Monica Coronavirus website](#)
- [City of Malibu Coronavirus alert](#)

[www.smmusd.org/coronavirus](http://www.smmusd.org/coronavirus)