



## Taking precautions against infection

Assalamu alaikum parents and students,

The CPSA board and administration have been closely monitoring the development of the coronavirus situation here in Illinois and have been taking precautionary measures to make sure that we can operate in the best interests of our students. No pandemic or state of emergency has been declared in the United States, but we have been closely following the communications of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO) as they issue updates and recommendations for reducing the risk of disease spread and infection.

The CDC and WHO stress the following points:

- Wash your hands thoroughly and often. This isn't the time to be frugal with water: wash your hands with soap and water **for at least 20 seconds**, especially after using the washroom, before eating, and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick and refrain from drinking out of the same container or eating with the same utensils when sharing food or drink.
- Stay home if you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a clean tissue and always throw it away immediately in the trash **and wash your hands**.
- Try to avoid touching your face, especially your eyes, nose, and mouth.

The CDC stresses that for individuals not personally taking care of the sick, the biggest risk of catching an infection is from coming into contact with contaminated surfaces and not by direct airborne transmission. Facemasks won't help in this regard, and this is why it is of paramount importance to wash your hands often and to avoid touching your face, especially out of habit.

CPSA is taking extra measures to try and keep our school as safe and disease-free as possible. We are making changes to the nightly cleaning schedule and will be taking care to especially ensure that surfaces our students and teachers come into contact with are constantly wiped down and disinfected. Additional foaming hand sanitization stations have been ordered and will be installed around the school this week, insha'Allah.

We know it can be hard arranging to have potentially sick students stay at home but we are counting on the help and support of our families to keep our school a disease-free environment. Arrangements are being made to ensure that students who stay home until they're feeling well are able to complete their classwork and submit their assignments online, insha'Allah.

These are strictly precautionary measures taken out of an abundance of caution and concern for the well-being of our students and their families. We stress that at this time there is no need to keep students at home unless they are exhibiting signs of being sick; we promise to keep everyone apprised should the situation change.

Jazakum Allah khair,  
The CPSA Administration