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Greetings,

God moves in mysterious ways, his wonders to perform. This is the beginning of a beautiful hymn anchoring our interpretation of events in faith and trust of the Lord. And this brings us to the Coronavirus. There are no current cases in our community and the risk to the general public is currently low.

Nonetheless, the purpose of this letter is to give you an overview of our preparations and plan, to share with you what you can be doing in your families, and all in the context of our faith in the Lord.

We are currently monitoring the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website and Spokane Public Health Department guidelines. Our plan is to keep an eye on these sites and follow their recommendations as information becomes available. We do have a contact at the Spokane Regional Health District to provide direction to our administration should a case of coronavirus case be confirmed in our community.

Currently, we are focusing on prevention. Primarily this consists of keeping common surfaces clean. If you want to swing by the school and help with touch up cleaning of doors and door knobs, the office can give you some cleaning supplies. We are increasing the frequency with which door knobs and the like are cleaned by our janitorial staff each day after school as well. Additionally, we are reviewing room cleanliness procedures with staff.

As a parent, you play a key role in the current concerns about the spread of viruses. The best thing we can do is observe heightened hygiene guidelines as follows:

- 1) If you are sick, stay home. Let the office know and heal up! It is also a good time to be especially mindful of the school's sick policy which states that, if your child has a fever, keep them home for 24hrs after it breaks.
- 2) Hand washing is critical. Do it often and don't touch your mouth, nose, or eyes. We also have restocked the hand sanitizer in classrooms.
- 3) Cough into your elbow, not into the air or your hands.

Regarding the coronavirus itself, the CDC says the novel coronavirus is part of a large family of viruses common in people and many different species of animals. The virus causes a respiratory disease called COVID-19. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure and include fever, cough, and shortness of breath.

The CDC also recommends, for schools in particular, to be in contact with local health officials if we have any questions about the advisability of closing school in a worst case scenario.

In the midst of all of this, we are committed to diligence in the area of prevention and trust in the Lord. Who knows what his purposes are with situations like this. One last thing that I suggest, speak with your children about this topic. Psalm 11 is a good dinner time read and a great opportunity to discuss faith in the Lord. Psalm 91 has a beautiful discussion of 'pestilence' as well.

We are grateful to partner with you as you raise up your children in the fear and admonition of the Lord!

God Bless,

Charlie Dowers