

Dear Saint Ursula Academy Community,

The spread of COVID-19, also known as the coronavirus, is a quickly changing situation with cases emerging in our Midwest region including Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana. Lelia and I want to keep you well informed regarding our plans to ensure the safety of our SUA community as the situation evolves.

Happening Now

At this time, we are working closely with our safety and security experts who are closely monitoring the situation and issuing updates daily, sometimes multiple times daily, to keep us informed of timely developments. SUA reviews every update and compiles best practices and recommendations from the National Institute of Health, Ohio Department of Health, and Cincinnati Health Department. Here is the [link](#) to Gov. DeWine's Executive Order and direct access to the Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana COVID-19 Hotlines ([Ohio](#), [Kentucky](#), and [Indiana](#)).

Saint Ursula has proactively implemented additional deep cleaning and disinfecting procedures around the campus daily to help keep surfaces and high traffic areas clean and free of germs. The SUA cleaning crew will spend Monday, March 16, when the students are off-campus, to deeply disinfect all of the school facilities. Faculty and staff have extra disinfectant supplies to use when needed.

Per our Ohio Department of Education (ODE) Pandemic Plan, if more than 35% of the school population is out due to illness, then Saint Ursula Academy will close. Saint Ursula is uniquely positioned, as a Laptop school with easy access to class resources, to host its classes online in the event the SUA campus would need to close for a period of time. The school Administration and Academic Department Chairs are in conversation about online learning days and the best way we can engage our students in learning in the event that the building needs to close due to infected community members.

PLEASE TAKE THIS [BRIEF SURVEY](#) to help SUA determine students' needs in the event of extended online learning days.

Illness Prevention

The spread of the coronavirus is a rapidly evolving situation, with multiple new cases being reported daily in the United States. The best way to prevent contracting the coronavirus is to take precautions.

We are encouraging the girls to wash their hands frequently and properly.

Daily operations:

Preventative measures are the best defense to a virus outbreak
Adults and students have been reminded about smart hygiene practices:
Avoid close contact with people who are sick
Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash
Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth
Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces
Stay home when sick, except to get medical care

If you are home ill, please do not return until you are fever-free for more than 24 hours
Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
Avoid hugging/touching hands
A non-touch wave/nod or bow will work instead
Or “ Elbow bump”
Or tapping each other’s feet

If a student becomes ill during the school day, she should report to the nurse right away. When reporting to the nurse, she should bring her backpack/belongings in case she is sent home.

Looking Forward: Co-Curricular and extended learning operations

SUA is in compliance with the new Archdiocese of Cincinnati guidelines regarding health protocols during Mass and prayer services.

Mr. Maliborski is in constant contact with OHSAA regarding athletic competitions. The recent update from OHSAA is as follows: At this point, as are all other major sporting events in Ohio, OHSAA will move forward with our state girls’ basketball tournament with limited spectators. As the situation remains extremely fluid at this point, OHSAA is committed to staying in close conversation with Governor DeWine’s office with the professional winter sports franchises.

The adults leading spring and summer experiential learning trips are in regular conversation with our partner agencies. Here is an excerpt from one of our partner agencies, Educational First Tours (EF): At this time, the World Health Organization (WHO) has not placed any restrictions on travel and the U.S. Department of State and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have only recommended against travel to mainland China. Given the evolving nature of the situation, we will continue to follow guidance from the U.S. Department of State, the WHO and the CDC and will respond quickly to any announcement of new requirements. Given our worldwide network of local offices in nearly every destination we travel to, we have the ability to make real-time, on the ground adjustments as necessary.

Please rest assured that we will not send groups to destinations that are deemed unsafe by the above government authorities. Also, in certain cases we will continue to implement measures that extend beyond those recommendations for the safety and support of our travelers. We will remain in contact with your Group Leader and inform them of the need to adjust any of our itineraries as the situation evolves. And as always we remain committed to providing groups with flexible options as the need arises for affected destinations or tours.

Music, arts, and other co-curricular events: SUA will continue to assess the appropriateness of student participation in internal and external events

The safety of our Saint Ursula community is our number one priority. We realize this is a fluid situation. Lelia and I will continue to share regular updates about SUA plans and procedures to keep the community safe and engaged in learning.

Coronavirus Resources

<https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odh/know-our-programs/Novel-Coronavirus/2019-nCoV>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/>

<https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/health/health-topics/coronavirus.page>

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