IMPORTANT NOTICE

January 19, 2021

Dear Parent(s)

As you may know, New Jersey Central East Region’s COVID-19 status is currently at a high risk (orange status) by the New Jersey Department of Health. In the past week, the SEARCH Day Program has observed instances of students and staff members who have confirmed cases, are symptomatic, or have been exposed to an individual who has tested positive for COVID-19. Currently, as the number of staff and students who are under quarantine continues to rise, the health and safety of our school community becomes a greater concern and challenge. **As a result, after consultation with the Monmouth County Regional Health Commission, we will close our campus and conduct virtual instruction beginning Wednesday January 20th through Friday January, 29th**, as we want to take preventative measures to ensure we are maintaining the health and safety of our school community. **We anticipate our next on campus school day will be Monday, February 1st and at that time you should plan to follow your child’s individual school calendar (red/green) for hybrid instruction.**

Undoubtedly, we know this is short notice and we recognize the difficulty this situation places on both our students and their families. This was a difficult decision; but the health and safety of our school community is the first order of business. Further, we know the best ways to meet the needs of our learners is here on campus working directly with their teachers, therapists, and paraprofessionals. However, as you can expect, our faculty will continue to work tirelessly with you and your children to ensure that during this period your child’s instructional needs will be met virtually. Within the next day, teachers and therapists will be contacting you to set up a schedule to receive instructional packets, emails, zoom instruction and consultation, and telephone consultation, where needed.

We ask that you continue to monitor for the signs and symptoms of COVID-19. Symptoms can include but are not limited to fever, cough, shortness of breath, sore throat, chills, fatigue, headache, congestion or runny nose, diarrhea, nausea/vomiting, and new loss of taste or smell.

We understand the level of concern regarding COVID-19. We encourage parents and students to

continue following the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention promoted safeguards, such as:

• Staying home when you are sick;

• Washing hands often with soap for at least 20 seconds;

• Covering coughs and sneezes and properly disposing of tissues;

• Limiting close contact with people who are sick and not sharing food, drinks and utensils;

• Practicing social distancing (staying at least 6 feet apart);

• Wearing a mask while in school; and

• Continuing to monitor your health for symptoms.

As always, we appreciate our community’s support and cooperation. You can assist us by remaining vigilant but sensible in your approach to dealing with this health concern

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach Lori or I at [mcarpino@searchdayprogram.com](mailto:mcarpino@searchdayprogram.com) or [levans@searchdayprogram.com](mailto:levans@searchdayprogram.com)

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