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Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we prepare for Spring Break to begin tomorrow, I want to keep you informed as we continue to monitor concerns related to Coronavirus.

St. Louis County Public Health Department authorities are indicating that one confirmed travel-acquired case of Coronavirus exists in the State of Missouri (here in the St. Louis area) and that the general threat to our community remains low at this time.

As the Bayless School community prepares to depart for Spring Break, some families are considering trips out of town. Please be aware that the National Center for Disease Control and our State Department of Health have advised that [individuals who travel](#) to certain areas may be quarantined for 14 days depending upon where the individuals have traveled when they arrive home. As you may know, last night President Trump has restricted international travel to several nations.

While we are hopeful that school will be able to progress as normal following Spring Break, we are planning for all possible scenarios. In the unlikely event we must close our schools because of the Coronavirus, we have plans in place to provide alternative methods of instruction for our students. These methods may include remote online instruction, printed study materials and information for parents as needed.

This week the BSD administrative team and teachers surveyed students about computer and WiFi access at home. This information was helpful to determine what, if any, technical resources Bayless may need to provide students in the event of a school closure. We are confident that we will be able to provide our students and families with needed materials and resources should alternative forms on instruction need to be implemented.

As I shared in my prior emails, the [best defense to Coronavirus](#), and any flu-type virus, is to:

- wash hands regularly,
- cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing, and
- remain home from work or school when you have symptoms of illness, especially a fever. Public health officials ask that you call your doctor should you feel ill.

As news coverage continues, and conversation around COVID-19 becomes more common, we understand that such news can be frightening for young children. We suggest [this resource](#) when talking to your student from the National Association of School Psychologists.

In the coming days and weeks, BSD will continue to closely monitor developments and communicate frequently with State and County officials. Likewise, I will update the school community should circumstances change.

Responding to the COVID-19 outbreak has been a challenge faced by all of us. As the situation continues to change, please know that our students' education and well-being continue to be our top priority.

Thank you for your cooperation and support. Let's continual to keep calm and carry on. 😊

Ron Tucker,  
Superintendent of Schools