

March 15, 2020

Dear Duchesne Families,

Archbishop Carlson announced today that the Archdiocesan schools will be closed and all cocurricular activities suspended until April 6. He made this decision in cooperation with local and state government and health officials. Archbishop Carlson says the health and safety of the people of the archdiocese is a priority and sees this decision as the best path forward to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus in our area.

Duchesne faculty and staff have been preparing for just this type of announcement and have plans for conducting school without attending classes in person. Since we are currently on break, the only things that are impacted right now are the co-curriculars. I will be sending out a schedule and directions for students in the next couple of days.

We will continue to work with the Archdiocese of St. Louis and state and local health officials to ensure the safety of our school population. We are in this together and remind you that your role as parents is the most critical component in the strategy of preventing the spread of this illness.

- If a family member is symptomatic of the COVID-19 coronavirus, please contact your County Department of Health Hotline. Officials operating the hotline will give you information on testing and the need to self-quarantine.
- If you or a close relative plans to travel, you are advised to check the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) link for travel guidelines and the latest updates on areas with confirmed cases of COVID-19. If you are traveling to an area where the virus is present or are unsure whether or not it is present at your travel destination, please contact the St. Louis County Department of Health Hotline at (314) 615-2660 for further instruction.
- Be aware of how COVID-19 spreads and what you can do to prevent it. That information is similar to the procedures we use in preventing influenza.
- State and health officials have banned gatherings of 50 or more people.

Prayer is of the upmost importance. Please continue to pray the prayer given to us by the USCCB. You can find the prayer posted at archstl.org/coronavirus.

If you have any questions, please contact me at flong@duchesne-hs.org.