



March 9, 2020

Update from Tacoma Baptist Schools regarding Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)

Dear students, staff and families,

We understand the recent news about COVID-19 has raised questions and concerns among students, families and faculty. Tacoma Baptist Schools is committed to keeping our learning community informed on COVID-19 (Coronavirus). As always, the health and well-being of our students, staff, and community are a top concern.

The Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department is not advising school closures at this time. The decision to close schools is not taken lightly. We are closely monitoring the health and attendance of our students and staff and monitoring any potential disruptions to daily school operations if they are needed to minimize the spread of the disease. We are also taking extra care in the daily cleaning of our facilities.

The Health Department advises we take these steps to help prevent the spread of viruses, including COVID-19:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds each time. You can also use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60-95% alcohol. Using soap and water is preferred.
- Use elbow bumps rather than handshakes or fist bumps.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, or the inside of your elbow.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick. Call your healthcare provider if you need medical care.

The school continues to follow the guidance of our larger local public school districts, the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department, and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) including decisions and recommendations for schools. A representative from TBS is attending weekly webinars with health department receiving updates and school recommendations from them until this issue is under control.

Get reliable information at tpchd.org/coronavirus. The Health Department regularly updates this page, including frequently asked questions.

Want resources to share with your children? [Here's an informative graphic resource from NPR.](#)

For general information, please contact the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department at 1-800-525-1027.

We know families, staff, and students are concerned. We are committed to keeping you informed and working with you to keep our school community safe.

Sincerely,

Tacoma Baptist Schools