



**CATE SCHOOL**  
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Dear Cate Families,

We have been closely monitoring the evolving coverage of the novel coronavirus and its impacts around the world. The Center for Disease Control's description of the virus can be found [here](#). The risk of exposure to coronavirus here at Cate is low, though Cate's health center is monitoring students and faculty with fever and respiratory symptoms closely. Should anyone ultimately show symptoms or test positive for the virus, we are confident that we have the systems to both support and treat students and stem any spread of the virus.

No doubt you are aware that governments throughout the world have imposed various travel restrictions on their citizenry. Particular restrictions have been placed on air travel to and from China. The [U.S. Department of State has elevated the alert status](#) for travel to China to Level 4: Do Not Travel. In light of this, Cate is recommending that students avoid travel to China over the spring break, which begins on the afternoon of Friday, February 28, 2020. In addition to concerns that the U.S. might block re-entry to the U.S. for anyone who is traveling from China, there is also the possibility that a traveler could be quarantined upon re-entry. Because it is difficult to predict how this situation will evolve over the next four weeks, it is important to state that there is also the possibility that Cate itself might need to restrict a student's return to campus should they have visited China over the break.

Our recommendation is that families modify itineraries that include travel within China. Out of an abundance of caution, we would also suggest that families planning Hong Kong or Singapore travel follow the same protocols. If a student needs help securing a place to stay over the spring break, we would be happy to help make sure they have a place to go here in the U.S. We have already spoken with a number of families happy to host Cate students. If you would be interested in potentially doing the same, please let us know that, too.

We will continue to monitor the situation and will update you on any additional relevant news or changes. As the last two weeks have proven, this is very much an evolving situation. We hope that you will join us in keeping in your thoughts those afflicted by the virus and those whose lives have been so dramatically impacted by the outbreak itself. Our prayers are with all of our families, but particularly those in China who have found themselves the potential victims of a worrisome new illness and a worldwide effort to stem the spread of the virus, an effort that has isolated entire populations.

In times such as these, the bonds of the extended Cate family matter all the more.

*Servons,*

Ben



<https://www.cate.org>

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