



March 12, 2020

Dear Panthers,

As you know, we are continuing to learn more about the COVID-19 virus daily, as this is a fluid situation. We would like to take this opportunity to update you on the decisions we have made in preparation for the spread of the virus and continuity of student learning throughout the remainder of the school year.

Effective Monday, March 16, 2020, and until further notice:

- All upcoming school-sponsored trips have been suspended, including off-campus activities such as field trips.
- All travel plans are canceled or postponed;
- Continue to participate in athletic events until further notice from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the Louisiana High School Athletic Association;
- Suspend large scale assemblies at the school.
- April events such as the Junior Ring Ceremony, the Arabic Cultural Celebration are still scheduled to occur. Any changes will be communicated with you before the event.
- The Senior Picnic and Night Around the World Gala are still scheduled to occur. Any changes will be communicated with you before the event.
- After School Remediation will continue.

COVID-19 is a fluid situation with more information being shared daily. At this time, we do not have plans to close the school, but if we needed to close the school, it would be short notice. School closure will be based on best the guidelines of the Louisiana Health Department and the CDC. Because there is a possibility that school will close, we are preparing our students and staff for distance learning utilizing Google Classroom.

Some have relayed inaccurate information about the transmission and exposure of the COVID-19, creating and perpetuating rumors about who can and cannot become infected by the virus. IHSNO is an inclusive community where there is no place for xenophobic actions or practices. We are one community with our friends and families near and far. We ask that each person be mindful of their interactions with others. Respect is the cornerstone of the IHSNO community.



To assist with keeping our students healthy and ready to learn, please take the following proactive steps to protect the health of yourself and those around you:

- If your child is sick, keep your child home and consult with your doctor.
- Wash your hands frequently and thoroughly with soap and water, or with a hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching your mouth, nose, and eyes with unwashed hands.
- Cover your nose and mouth with your forearm when you cough or sneeze. Wash your hands immediately afterward.
- Disinfect frequently touched surfaces.
- Avoid close contact (within six feet) with those who are sick.

Should any students or staff exhibit any signs of the COVID-19 virus, such as fever, cough, and shortness of breath, they will be sent to the school nurse immediately. You must notify the school if anyone in your household comes in contact with an infected person. As this is a serious matter, communication and preventative measures are crucial to avoiding school closure. We encourage you to follow the recommendations of the Louisiana Department of Health.

The [CDC](#) has more [information](#) about what you can do to help prevent the spread of [COVID-19](#).

We are fortunate to have your support as we take measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and ensuring the health of our students and staff.

In service,

IHSNO Administrative Team