Dear Parents,

I am writing with an update on coronavirus (COVID-19) and The Maddux School’s preparation and response. Last evening, it was announced that three Montgomery County residents are the first confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the state of Maryland.

In an update last evening, MCPS said, “We are following guidance from the Department of Health and Human Services and our schools will remain open.” The Maddux School and Ivymount School and Programs will also remain open, as we continue to monitor COVID-19 developments and plan for the possibility of school closure. We will continue to implement protocols for daily cleaning, frequent handwashing, and proactive communication.

We encourage you to reach out to your healthcare provider if you or a family member are experiencing symptoms and to follow best practices for overall health in cold and influenza season. The CDC recommends that individuals remain home for at least 24 hours after you no longer have a fever or signs of a fever without the use of fever-reducing medication (i.e., chills, feeling warm, flushed appearance). This is consistent with the policy outlined in the Family Handbook.

RESOURCES

- [Montgomery County (MD) Department of Health and Human Services](https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/health) information website
- [Maryland Department of Health COVID-19 Information Website](https://coronavirus.maryland.gov)

Maddux and Ivymount leadership and staff are staying informed, working together to make smart decisions about community programming, and implementing prevention best practices. Our efforts will take into consideration the health and safety needs of all of our students.

Finally, stay informed and ensure the information you are getting is from a trusted source like the state health departments or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Misinformation can spread quickly and can make it more challenging for us all to manage the situation effectively.

Thank you so much for your partnership in this area.

Sincerely,

Andrea Mullins
School Director

March 6, 2020