



13 March 2020

Dear Agamim Families,

The following is our most current COVID-19 Prevention and Response & Educational Planning.

To keep our Agamim community healthy and prepared, our leadership team and school nurse are constantly monitoring all communications for schools from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Minnesota Department of Education (MDE), and the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH). Our emergency plans are also updated with each new directive to ensure our community can respond swiftly to new developments for prevention and mitigation of the respiratory illness COVID-19 (“new coronavirus”).

Below are the current recommendations from the CDC, MDH, and MDE for schools.

❖ **PREVENTION** – *Slowing Transmission and Protecting the Community*

1. **HAND WASHING & STAYING HOME WHEN SICK** – These continue to be the most effective ways to prevent the spread of contagious illnesses. Here are the symptoms to look for when deciding to keep your child home.
 - *Fever over 100 degrees F* (*may return to school once fever is gone without fever-reducing medications such as Tylenol or ibuprofen)
 - *Shortness of breath or wheezing*
 - *Coughing that disrupts normal activity*
 - *Distracting pain from an earache, headache, or sore throat*
 - *Vomiting or diarrhea*

How you and your child can help promote good health:

- *Protect yourself and others by washing your hands often with soap and water; covering your cough and sneeze; avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.*
 - *If you or your child are sick, stay home from school and activities.*
 - *Do not return to school or work until you are feeling better and a fever is gone for at least 24 hours without using fever-reducing medication.*
 - *Be prepared in case you get sick and need to stay home. Keep enough food, regular prescription drugs, and other necessities on hand in case you need to stay home and are not able to go out easily.*
 - *Frequently clean all commonly touched work surfaces, work areas, and equipment (e.g., laptops/mice, telephones, doorknobs, lunch areas, countertops, copiers, etc.).*
2. **PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING** – This is the next best strategy to prevent transmission of illness.
 - **LIMIT LARGE GROUP MIXING OF PEOPLE** (e.g., no school assemblies, concerts, etc.)
 - **NEXT WEEK'S PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES ARE CANCELLED – Homeroom Teachers and Specialists will send home mid-semester progress reports in backpacks next Friday before Spring Break.**
 - **WE WILL NOT HOLD ANY LARGE-GROUP EVENTS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**
 - **REMOTE LEARNING WILL BE PROVIDED IF SCHOOL IS CLOSED** (*NOTE: *This is not e-schooling with a live teacher but is a packet of work sent home with students to continue their learning at home*)

Agamim Classical Academy

Address: 5300 France Avenue South, Edina, MN 55410

Phone: 952-856-2531

Fax: 952-856-2728

Email: info@agamim.org

Website: www.agamim.org



- **PARENTS/GUARDIANS OF VULNERABLE STUDENTS WILL BE CONTACTED BY THE SCHOOL TO DISCUSS HEALTH AND SCHOOLING OPTIONS** (e.g., Homebound instruction)
- **IMPORTANT EXCEPTION: BEFORE & AFTER CARE AND ALL CLUBS WILL REMAIN OPEN** until further notice as these are not considered large group activities given their enrollment numbers.

3. SCHOOL CLEANING & SANITIZING

- Agamim follows all recommended cleaning and sanitations measures issued from the CDC regarding the cleaning of facilities and frequently touched surfaces. We have implemented and are constantly monitoring and reviewing all cleaning and disinfecting practices to prevent transmission of illness. We also are working closely with Calvary Church and Berry Patch in these efforts.
- Our cleaning company continues to update all cleaning products as recommendations are issued from the CDC. They are prepared for an extensive disinfection of the building.
- We continue to have an appropriate supply of soap and hand sanitizer. As much as possible, staff will encourage students to wash and sanitize their hands throughout the day.
- Hand sanitizer stations are located around the building, including at Door 4 and the cafeteria. Posters illustrating effective hand washing and coughing/sneezing etiquette have been placed around the building to encourage good hygiene and illness prevention.

4. ILLNESS MONITORING & NOTIFICATION

- We continue to monitor daily all illness-related absences of students and staff.
- If your child is sick, please keep him/her at home. To report a child absent, please contact the office by phone at 952-856-2531 and follow the prompts or by email at info@agamim.org. We ask that you share any symptoms or diagnoses with the office so that we can track any illness patterns or needs in our school community.
- If you have questions, please contact our school nurse: **Carly Smitkowski** at carly.smitkowski@hcmcd.org.

❖ PREPAREDNESS – *Responding to Illness in the Community*

AT THIS TIME, PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCIES ARE NOT RECOMMENDING SCHOOL CLOSURES FOR COVID-19.

We will continue to take direction from the state on school closings. If we need to close school temporarily, we may implement some of the measures included below. Our administration is working with staff on longer-term plans to address critical operational issues such as:

- Continued instruction via Remote Learning for all grades if school must be closed for a period of time
- Potentially high levels of student and/or staff absenteeism
- Alternate plans for school events and ceremonies

❖ RECOVERY – *Returning to Normal Operations in the Community*

If the school building has been temporarily closed, the school will work with local health agencies and our Agamim staff and families to create any necessary recovery measures to help the school resume normal operations as quickly as possible.

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❖ **TO LEARN MORE ABOUT COVID-19, VISIT:**

- Minnesota Department of Health Coronavirus (COVID-19) Website (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/index.html>)
- CDC Coronavirus (COVID-19) Website (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>)

We will continue to update our plans and provide you with more information as it becomes available. If you have questions about COVID-19 or other infectious diseases, call the Minnesota Department of Health at 651-201-5414.

Thank you for working with our staff to keep our community informed, healthy, and prepared.

Very best wishes for health and rest for your family,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Miranda Morton".

Miranda Morton
Executive Director