



I received this information from the Ohio District of the LCMS. Maybe you will find some things useful as you prepare.

School Administrators,

As you have seen in the last 24 hours, things can change quickly. One of the primary responsibilities of our Lutheran schools is to provide a safe learning environment for our children. To that end, whether stakeholders believe this virus is overhyped through mass hysteria or an actual public health crisis, it is our job to be proactive and prepare for contingencies. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure seems particularly applicable. My thoughts this morning on what school leaders should be doing:

1. Pray. *“Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.”* (1 Peter 5:7, NIV)
2. Require your teachers to instruct students on [proper handwashing](#) – even if it is redundant.
3. Don’t make your decisions in a vacuum. If you have a Crisis Team, include them on any thoughts/questions you might have.
4. Continue to actively monitor the [Center for Disease Control](#) and your local government agencies for any updated guidance.
5. Continue to prepare for the possibility of school closures by putting in place plans for virtual learning (see email from my office on 3/10/2020 or below for resources).
  - a. I have had some questions about how to prepare for virtual learning at the earliest levels (e.g., K4, K5). One interesting activity is [Blizzard Bingo](#), which could be adapted for most grade levels.
  - b. Some basic resources to consider include:
    - i. Instructional lessons found on YouTube (some guidance found [here](#))
    - ii. Khan Academy (information for beginners and parents [here](#))
  - c. I have created Google folders for individual grade levels/subject so that teachers can share resources on eLearning. I believe all our high schools already have eLearning platforms, so I have not created folders for that age level. **Encourage your teachers to share files and ideas**. These links are open and should work.
    - i. [K4](#)
    - ii. [K5](#)
    - iii. [1st grade](#)
    - iv. [2nd grade](#)
    - v. [3rd grade](#)
    - vi. [4th grade](#)
    - vii. [5th grade](#)
    - viii. [Middle School Math](#)

- ix. [Middle School Social Studies](#)
  - x. [Middle School Science](#)
  - xi. [Middle School English/Language Arts](#)
  - xii. [Middle School Religion](#)
6. Many of our schools will be going on Spring Break in the coming week(s). Consider using this time to proactively clean common areas of the school as well as toys, games, keyboards, etc. Guidance on cleaning can be found [here](#) and [here](#).
  7. In some of our schools, students rely on the breakfast and lunch programs that you provide. How can our schools and congregations help these families should schools close for an extended period? Consider appointing one person on your staff to serve as the main contact for families in need of assistance.
  8. Notify parents how you are preparing and what would dictate the closure of your school. Better to have more communication than none.

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