



March 11, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Our school maintains close contact with the Stafford County Health department regarding all contagious diseases, including the coronavirus. Our health department, in conjunction with the CDC, has been excellent in keeping us informed over the years. Concerning the current virus, we will maintain contact with the health department, follow their recommendations, and keep you informed.

As always, we will follow the Stafford County school system in our decisions to remain open or to close due to weather, illnesses, and viruses. If ONE Stafford County school is closed due to the virus, Red Apple will remain open. If ALL Stafford County schools are closed, Red Apple will also close as we do for snow days. At this time, there are no scheduled closing for Stafford County schools or the Red Apple. However, this may be a rapidly changing situation. Please keep alert to changes and updates. We will send out emails, and you can check the status of the public school openings and closings by going to the Stafford County Public school's website. Red Apple also makes announcements on our Facebook page.

The Red Apple teaches our children in preventative handwashing measures to avoid the spread of illness. This is good advice for everyone.

1. Wash hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water. Dry hands and use the hand towel to turn off the faucet if it is not an automatic faucet.
2. Wash your hands upon arrival and departure. Wash your hands if you blow your nose or sneeze into your hands. Wash your hands after bathroom use or before eating.

Other preventative measures are:

1. Do not touch your eyes, nose, or mouth.
2. Cover your mouth and nose when sneezing or coughing... then wash your hands. Use a tissue or cough and sneeze into your sleeve so you will not spread droplets around the area.
3. Avoid contact with people who are sick.
4. If you travel to a high-risk country during spring break, please refer to the VDH and the CDA for guidance on self-quarantine and self-monitoring.

Keep your children home if they are sick.

1. Fever greater than 100°F or 37.7°C.
2. Vomiting within 24 hours.
3. Diarrhea
4. Severe earaches (pain) for chronic productive (wet) cough.
5. General malaise or feeling fatigue, discomfort, weakness, or muscle aches.

Red Apple will continue to maintain our thorough cleaning and sanitizing processes throughout the year.

Thank you for helping us provide a safe and healthy environment for our children and community.

Sincerely,

Nancy Bjerke
President