Dear Codman Families,

It is the top priority of Codman Academy to keep our students and staff safe and healthy. As you may know, news about the coronavirus continues to evolve and unfortunately the virus has continued to spread. However, the threat to Boston remains low. Despite the low risk in Boston, we are preparing for any developments. Codman Academy is monitoring the situation closely and is in constant communication with our city partners at the Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC).

You can help keep our community healthy. The steps that you can take to prevent the spread of COVID-19 will also prevent the spread of all ordinary diseases, like colds, flu, and other viruses. Please encourage all members of your household – including children – to take the following steps:

- Keep your child home if they have a fever or are sick.
- Wash your hands often, with soap and water, for 30-40 seconds. Always wash your hands when they are dirty, and after you have used the bathroom, before you eat, and when you blow your nose, cough, or sneeze.
- Don’t touch your eyes, nose, or mouth.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.

We are reminding staff that if they have a fever or symptoms of illness, they should stay home. We are encouraging teachers to allow students time to wash their hands during the school day. We have worked to ensure that there is a sufficient supply of cleaners, hand sanitizer, hand soap, and paper towels for use in our school.

Over the February break, CM Cleaning performed a thorough, deep cleaning of both school buildings. Our school nurse will continue to collaborate with BPHC to determine if any targeted cleaning is needed for schools experiencing a high number of students with winter illnesses, like the flu or common cold.

Boston’s Department of Public Health stands ready to utilize established protocols and procedures should COVID-19 become prevalent in our community.
School nurses are trained to recognize the signs and symptoms of the COVID-19 virus and the risk categories related to travel history, exposure and symptoms of this virus. They are knowledgeable in infection prevention and control protocols, and have appropriate personal protective equipment. They are trained to provide proper care for any individual who presents with possible symptoms of COVID-19.

For the most up-to-date and reliable information on the coronavirus, please visit the BPHC website at www.bphc.org.

We will continue to keep you updated as BPHC guidance and recommendations evolve.

Thank you,

Candace DeStefano
School Nurse

Pamela Casna
Principal

Thabiti Brown
Head of School