March 9, 2020

District 51 Families & Staff,

Based on the recent information and guidance sent out by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, and the Mesa County Public Health Department, we are issuing a travel directive for the remainder of March that we have NO school-sponsored trips out of state or out of the country. As the situation is changing on an hourly basis, we will examine the status of the disease progression at the end of March or before, if needed, and make any determinations for April at that time.

We are not making this directive lightly, as we appreciate the amount of time and energy that goes into putting these trips together, and how excited you all are to take these trips, but feel we must protect our students and staff by following the guidance of the State and County Health Departments regarding travel.

For the most up to date information regarding Mesa County, and guidance regarding any travel, we suggest you check the Mesa County Public Health Department at the following website: www.health.mesacounty.us

Just a reminder, we are asking that people self-isolate if they have any symptoms. Those symptoms are listed as having a fever of 101 or fever of 100 and any flu symptoms, which include fever, coughing, and shortness of breath. Please do not go to school or work, and consult your physician if that is the case.

On the Western Slope, there are several cases that we are waiting for the results of the test and confirmation of any COVID-19 in our area. The virus has an incubation period of 2 weeks, so you want to watch for these symptoms if you believe you have been exposed for at least that long.

Our schools will all receive a disinfection of all surfaces over Spring Break and we will continue to do so after our student and staff return.

Please feel free to contact our office if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Dr. Diana Sirko, DS1 Superintendent