March 10, 2020

Dear Stoddert Elementary Students and Families —

At DC Public Schools (DCPS), we are committed to ensuring the well-being of our students. Communicating home about issues that impact school communities is important to fostering strong partnerships with families, and I would like to provide an important update around coronavirus (also known as COVID-19).

While the presence of the COVID-19 in the District is understandably concerning, it is not unexpected given the spread of the virus globally and in the United States. There is still no widespread community transmission, and our priority continues to be prevention.

DCPS is supporting all guidance provided by DC Health as it relates to the confirmed case of COVID-19 at Christ Church, Georgetown Episcopal. We recognize that individual members of our school community may meet DC Health’s criteria and should be following the guidance for isolation. At this time, there is no indication of immediate risk to other students and staff at Stoddert, and we will continue to operate normally. DCPS will also continue to implement enhanced cleaning protocols and monitor the situation closely.

We understand you may have questions about COVID-19 and what it means for you and your child’s school. Answers to some of these questions can be found in the FAQ resource from the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education. Please share this information with friends, colleagues, and family. DCPS will also continue to share official information on our Twitter account — @dcpublicschools — and post information on our website at http://dcps.dc.gov/coronavirus. You can also visit https://coronavirus.dc.gov/ for more information from DC Health.

Thank you for your understanding and ongoing commitment to keeping the safety of our students, staff, and school communities a priority. If you have any questions, please send them to ceo.info@k12.dc.gov.

Sincerely,

Lewis D. Ferebee, Ed.D.
Chancellor