

March 4, 2020

Dear DCPS Students and Families:

Earlier this week, [we shared important information](#) from DC Health and the other lead agencies directing the District's preparation, monitoring, and response around coronavirus (also known as COVID-19). Today, we are providing an update regarding international school trips this spring.

Following guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) concerning international travel and COVID-19, **we are canceling all DCPS-sponsored international travel between now and May 1, 2020.**

The [CDC provides risk assessment](#) levels related to travel for the purpose of guiding public health management decisions for people with potential travel-related exposures to COVID-19. Out of an abundance of caution, we made this decision due to current travel health notice status from the CDC. We will continue to monitor this situation closely and will provide an update related to student travel plans beyond this date.

For schools with planned travel this Spring, your school principal is working with DCPS staff and tour operators on the next steps around travel logistics. We know that students were looking forward to this memorable opportunity and international travel experience. Our goal is to work closely with schools to offer similar experiences for students in the future. Thank you in advance for your understanding and keeping student and staff safety paramount.

Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions at chancellor@k12.dc.gov or contact your school principal. For the latest information from DC Health on COVID-19, visit <https://dchealth.dc.gov/coronavirus>.

Sincerely,

Lewis D. Ferebee, Ed.D.
Chancellor