

HEALTH NEWS: POLICIES AND PROTOCOLS

RE: COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PREVENTION

In light of the recent diagnosis of the Ebola virus in Dallas, please know the Education Center International Academy (ECIA) is in communication with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and will continue to monitor the situation. There is currently no reason to believe that the situation presents a health concern to ECIA students or staff members.

However, we do want to take this opportunity to remind you of ECIA's policies and protocols that are always in place to assist in keeping students healthy and safe and to help prevent the spread of illness within our schools.

Please be reminded of the following:

- We will isolate students who have symptoms of illness and call parents immediately for them to be picked up.
- If a student has fever, they must be fever free for 24 hours before returning to school (this means without the use of fever reducing medication).
- If a student has diarrhea, they must be diarrhea free for 24 hours before returning to school (this means without the use of diarrhea suppressing medication). Diarrhea is 3 or more episodes of loose stools in a 24 hour period.
- A student must not come to school if vomiting 2 or more times in 24 hours. A student should have 1 or 2 meals without vomiting before returning to school.

Please be diligent in complying with the above protocol. In addition, you can support our efforts by reminding your child to:

- Wash their hands. Good hand washing is often the best defense to prevent the spread of bacterial and viral illnesses, including common colds, flu, eye infections, etc.
- Do not share drinks, food, cosmetics, or any other personal items.
- Please be assured that our custodians implement strict guidelines in the cleaning of our buildings.

In addition, hand sanitizer is available in every classroom.

ECIA will communicate any guidelines or precautions recommended by the local health departments that need to be taken in the event of a public health issue.

You may access www.cdc.gov for more information from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) regarding Ebola <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/index.html>.

Donna Townsend, Ed. D.
Superintendent ECIA Charter