

March 13, 2020, 1:30 p.m.

Dear Yinghua families:

**We have made the decision to postpone students' return to school until Tuesday, March 17.** Thus, Yinghua will be closed to students on Monday, March 16. There will be no class, no busing, no online learning, and no after-school activities.

Although students will not be in school on Monday, teachers and staff will be at school working to modify their classrooms for social distancing and further developing our distance learning plans, should we need to employ them in future. Our goal is to keep everyone as safe as possible while teaching and learning continue at Yinghua.

Here is background information. Today we contacted Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) officials regarding the spread of Covid-19 and what they advise Yinghua to do. They advised schools not to close, and, as a public school, **we are following their recommendation to not close at this time.** As of this writing, there is no known community spread of Covid-19 in Minnesota, and Yinghua knows of no cases of Covid-19 in our school community, but MDH asks schools to adopt a "preparedness phase." MDH bases its decisions on recommendations from the U.S. Center for Disease Control.

Here's what families need to do:

- Many of you have completed the online form to tell us about your family's access to digital and online resources. If you haven't yet completed the form, please do so: [Online Resources](#). We will use this information as we continue to work on our remote learning plan.
- Keep your children home if they are ill.
- Before sending your child back to school following Yinghua's Spring Break, contact the Minnesota Department of Health if you believe you have been exposed to Covid-19, and communicate with Yinghua's school nurse, Ginger Hao, at [ginger.hao@yinghuaacademy.org](mailto:ginger.hao@yinghuaacademy.org) following your conversation with MDH.
- During Door 2 pickup, please wait outside the building rather than in the mural hallway.
- You may wish to review MDH Covid-19 pages in [English](#), [Hmong](#), [Somali](#), or [Spanish](#).

Please know how much we care about your safety and wellbeing. We are exercising caution and abiding by the recommendations that are given to us as a public school. Because this situation is rapidly changing and evolving, please check your email frequently today and this weekend for any updates from Yinghua.

Yours sincerely,

Sue Berg, Luyi Lien, and Ginger Hao