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Dear St. Francis families,

We are aware of Des Moines Public Schools deciding to close after spring break for an extended period of time. At this time, the Iowa Department of Public Health is not advising any school closures. This stance is supported by the Iowa Department of Education.

Our current plan is for our St. Francis of Assisi students and youth programming to return to campus from spring break on March 23.

- Please view the following link for the up-to-date guidance we are following:
[IDPH: Mass Gathering Recommendations for COVID-19](#)
- You can also review information from the U.S. Department of Education here:
[COVID-19 Information and Resources](#)
- To review the precautions and protocols we have been taking as it relates to worship, please see the latest blog post on our website: [SFA Website COVID-19 Update](#)
- We also want to provide this kid-friendly article that you can use to talk with your child to guide the conversation about Coronavirus (COVID-19): [How to Talk to Your Child](#)

Rest assured that our staff will be monitoring information and the status of the situation from emergency and health management and from the diocese throughout spring break. We will keep you informed of any changes or updated information related to the St. Francis of Assisi campus.

Don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

We are grateful for your continued support, and keep the health and safety of all in our prayers.

Fr. Ray McHenry
St. Francis of Assisi Pastor