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COVID 19 and Acknowledgment of Risk

The collective effort and sacrifice of Washington residents staying at home limited the spread of COVID-19. But the potential for community transmission of COVID-19 within APL continues, including transmission by individuals who are infected and contagious, but have no symptoms. Infected persons are contagious 48 hours before developing symptoms (“pre-symptomatic”), and many are contagious without ever developing symptoms (“asymptomatic”). Pre-symptomatic and asymptomatic people are likely unaware that they have COVID-19.

We know that the return to school is an important step in the resumption of activities. However, the decision by Governor Inslee and the Department of Health to allow return to school does not mean that attending school or childcare is free of risk. The virus may remain transmissible on surfaces for several days, and no sanitation protocol can guarantee complete elimination of risk. Attending school could increase the risk of the child becoming infected with COVID-19. The health impacts of COVID 19 are still not fully known or understood, although it is known that there are potentially serious health concerns, including possible fatality. Some children and youth may develop a rare complication that can impact young people who have had COVID-19. It is called Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C). Asymptomatic children may also transmit the illness to others.

Each parent or guardian must determine for themselves if they are willing to take the risk of enrolling their child to physically attend school classes, including whether they need to take additional precautions to protect the health of their child and others in the household. They should particularly consider the risks to household members who are adults 65 years or older, or anyone who has an underlying medical condition. Parents and guardians may want to discuss these risks and their concerns with their pediatrician or other health care provider, or to consult such sources as the Center for Disease Control.

APL is conscientious about following health protocols and expects full cooperation in this regard. Prior to returning to school, APL will provide information on the health and safety protocols for parents, students, and visitors. Parents and guardians must agree to these conditions and responsibilities before their child attends school on-site. These protocols are subject to change and modification depending on evolving information. There may be incidents or activities throughout the school day where a protocol may be modified in the discretion of supervising adults.

I understand the risks associated with enrolling my child in school, and agree to assume the risks to my child and my household. I also agree to follow all safety requirements that APL imposes as a condition of enrolling my child in on-site learning. I understand that if my child has a condition that requires a reasonable accommodation related to the safety protocols, I will discuss this with appropriate school personnel prior to my child’s arrival.

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian

Date

Name of Child/Children