Dear Southwestern College professionals,

While we continue to assess the COVID-19 situation around San Diego County, it is important to maintain the health and safety of all students and employees.

Link to Coronavirus Prevention Tips tip sheet.

If you come across a student or employee who is sick, we are asking that person be sent home immediately.

Southwestern College is also temporarily converting the meditation room outside Student Union East into a “sick room,” that will be staffed. If a student is unable to go home immediately, as they wait for a ride or their bus, they should be sent to the temporary sick room. We encourage faculty to consider that a lack of attendance or participation will not impact a student’s grade during this extraordinary time.

How do we define “sick?” Based on guidance from the California Department of Health: a fever and/or respiratory infection symptoms.

Here is the official statement from the California Department of Public Health, specifically for higher education institutions:

Send students, faculty, and staff who present with fever and/or respiratory infection symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath) home immediately. When feasible, identify a “sick room” through which others do not regularly pass.

- Separate the individual as much as possible from others and make arrangements for the individual to go home as soon as possible, and
- If the institution is a college or university and the individual resides in a group setting, make arrangements for the individual to be placed in a private room with a private bathroom.

We will continue to send out important updates as they become available.
Watch for symptoms

Reported illnesses have ranged from mild symptoms to severe illness and death for confirmed coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) cases.

The following symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure.*

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath

Vulnerability is our most accurate measurement of courage.

Brené Brown

www.swccd.edu