

Asian & Latino Solidarity Alliance

Advancing common objectives impacting the Asian and Latino communities in Central Virginia

P.O. Box 2941

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Contact: Eric Lin Community Engagement Director, ALSACV

804-307-0806

alsacv@alsacv.org

Glen Allen, VA 23058 http://alsacv.org/

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ALSA-CV warns against coronavirus-related bullying and misinformation against Asian American students

There has been an overwhelming anti-Asian and anti-Chinese sentiment due to the coronavirus, and in response, the Asian Latino Solidarity Alliance of Central Virginia (ALSACV) urges Chesterfield County Public Schools (CCPS) to take appropriate measures to prevent any discrimination via bullying and/or harassment towards ethnic Chinese and other Asian Americans due to harmful stereotyping and misinformation about the coronavirus.

ALSACV encourages the CCPS administration and staff to do their due diligence to prevent the perception that Chinese and other immigrant students are contagious and to prevent Asian Americans from being wrongfully accused as public health threats. There are many Asian Americans who have never traveled outside the United States, let alone been to the regions near the outbreaks. The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) and Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have been closely monitoring the situation and determined that the risk of exposure to coronavirus outside of China is currently very low. VDH provides up-to-date information every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday on their website and a coronavirus fact sheet that can be shared in the classroom to dispel myths and stereotypes. It is important to provide students and staff clear and factual information to reduce anxiety and fear.