

Dear Parents and Guardians:

We are writing to provide you with information regarding our response to the Coronavirus, also known as COVID-19. We continue to work closely with the Dover and Sherborn Boards of Health, our Public Health Nurse Consultant, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH), the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE).

As you may be aware, the situation continues to evolve rapidly and we recognize that this has resulted in a heightened anxiety in our two communities. As we have said in the past, the health and safety of our students is and will remain our first priority. To this end we now plan on sending weekly updates on the status of COVID-19, as it pertains to our schools for the foreseeable future.

As of this writing, there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in our school community and we anticipate being notified by state officials should this change. That said, because of health privacy laws we may not always be able to share personal health record information publicly.

Per Governor Baker's recent request, we have cancelled all scheduled international field trips. We will continue to monitor the situation and will notify you of any changes to scheduled domestic or local field trips. Additionally, we would ask that if you or any of your immediate family members are planning to travel to Level II (Japan) or III (China, Iran, Italy) countries that you notify district Lead Nurse, Jill Fedor ([fedorj@doversherborn.org](mailto:fedorj@doversherborn.org)) prior to returning to school.

Moving forward, we would like to take this opportunity to remind you of good practices for keeping your children safe and healthy during cold and flu season in general, and especially during this current COVID-19 situation. These include:

- Frequent hand washing for at least 20 seconds with soap and water - When unavailable use sanitizers
- Keep hands and fingers away from your face/mouth
- Respiratory etiquette (covering mouth when coughing or sneezing)
- Staying home when sick (If you are questioning whether your child is healthy enough to attend school, best practice is to keep your child at home.)
- If you have health questions about your child, please reach out to your primary care physician

As a reminder, our custodial staff has an approved disinfection program which includes, but is not limited to, cleaning hard surfaces (desks, tables, countertops, sinks) and frequently touched surfaces (doorknobs, faucets, railings), bathrooms and health offices. Additionally, hand sanitizers have been made available and are being kept well stocked in each building. Please note that custodial staff are trained to use disinfectants in a safe and effective manner and have already been cleaning the schools regularly during this flu season.

Although we will notify you immediately of any emergency situations that develop at Dover Sherborn, we ask that when seeking real time information or updates about COVID-19 in general that you access the CDC and DPH websites, which are as follows:

<https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2020/s-0303-Additional-COVID-19-infections.html>

<https://www.mass.gov/resource/information-on-the-outbreak-of-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19>

Again we recognize that this is a challenging situation but want to assure you that we continue to work with local and state officials on a routine basis and will be continuing to keep the safety of your children as our highest priority.

Sincerely,

Andrew Keough  
Superintendent of Schools

Jill Fedor  
Lead Nurse

Dr. Matt Vitale  
Sherborn Board of Health

Dr. Stephen Kruskall  
Dover Board of Health