

March 12, 2020

Dear Dover Sherborn Families,

As mentioned in our recent correspondence, the Coronavirus epidemic continues to evolve rapidly. We as always remain committed to the health and safety of your children and the larger community of which they are a part, and as such will work to respond to new information as it becomes available. While the current presumed positive case burden in Dover and Sherborn remains small and has not changed – the reported limitations in testing access make it difficult for us to say with certainty that this infection is not more widely spread in our communities. As we look to the actions of similar towns in our area, we recognize that the widespread regional school closures offer an opportunity to mitigate the risk of spread and believe that by aligning with this general pattern we may do our part to reduce local and regional transmission. We recognize that the disruption to school routines has implications for both our students and their families, but also cannot overlook the unpredictable nature of Covid-19.

With this in mind, we have made the decision to close the Dover Sherborn Regional Schools beginning tomorrow, Friday, March 13th. Our administrative team will be working with our educators to develop plans for remote learning and we anticipate initiating such a program after March 20th (if necessary). We will keep you apprised as those plans come into closer focus. We currently anticipate that the period of closure will extend for two weeks to allow time to better observe patterns of local and regional disease spread, and to hopefully allow time for more widely available testing to inform the decisions we are asked to make. We will reassess this decision in one week and will share the conclusions we reach at that time (Friday, March 20th).

In order to have the desired impact on reducing spread – using this closure as a mechanism for social distancing is important. We would recommend against large group gatherings and would continue to limit exposure when possible.

We thank you for your support as we progress through this difficult period.

Sincerely,

Matthew Vitale, MD

Sherborn BOH

Andrew Keough

Superintendent

Steven Kruskall, MD

Dover BOH

Jill Fedor

Lead Nurse