SOUTHWICK-TOLLAND-GRANVILLE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



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Dear Southwick-Tolland-Granville Regional School District Families:

We understand that many families have questions regarding the recent outbreak of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19 or coronavirus disease 2019) and how it may impact our local communities. The US Department of Health and Human Services, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, as well as the National Center for Disease Control have been monitoring the spread of COVID-19 and providing daily updates.

While we acknowledge this is a public health concern, the CDC continues to report that the risk of exposure remains low. As of today, there are two confirmed cases in Massachusetts. Yet, in our "mobile" world, the potential for the spread of this virus is always a concern.

The general precautions we should all take to remain healthy during the flu season is also good advice on reducing the risk of contracting all viruses.

- Practice good hand washing. Wash your hands often and thoroughly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands. You can also use an alcohol based hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available.
- Cover your hands and nose with a tissue when coughing and sneezing. You can also cough or sneeze into your sleeve.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick whenever possible.

It is also important to keep children home from school when they are ill. If your child has any of the following symptoms, please keep them home from school: temperature of 100.4 F, coughing, vomiting, and diarrhea, any rash not yet diagnosed by a physician, red or pink itchy eyes, and/or drainage from eye, and any contagious illness such as chicken pox, strep throat or flu. Children who are sick should stay home until they are feeling well and fever free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications. As always, you should consult your physician if you have any concerns or questions.

The coronavirus disease 2019 is an evolving situation that we are following closely and we will continue to update you as information is shared with us. Please rest assured that we are monitoring student health concerns on a daily basis. We are sanitizing our school buildings as we typically do during the cold and flu season. We are following all recommended guidelines to ensure the safety and wellness of our staff and students.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or your child's school.

Thank you,

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