April 5, 2020

Dear MTSD Families

The purpose of this memo is to provide you with important updates as it relates to COVID19 in the Milton Town School District. These updates include:

- New information on the spread of Coronavirus and wearing face coverings
- Access to public recreation

As a reminder, all decisions related to COVID19 are based on the guidance given to us through Governor Scott’s Executive Order, the VT Agency of Education and the VT Department of Health in conjunction with the Center for Disease Control (CDC).

As you may know, the CDC continues to study the spread of the disease. New information from the CDC then informs both required and recommended practices for Staying Home and Staying Safe in Vermont. Recently, the CDC highlighted that many individuals with the Coronavirus lack symptoms and even those who eventually develop symptoms can pass the virus to others before showing symptoms.

This means the virus can spread between people interacting in close proximity through speaking, coughing or sneezing - even if the infected person is not showing symptoms. Therefore the CDC has a new recommendation; that is to wear a cloth face covering in public settings where social distancing is difficult to maintain.

In addition to seeing more people wearing face coverings in public, you may also see MTSD staff responsible for the delivery of meals wearing them too. Please do not be alarmed. If staff choose to wear masks or face coverings, it is for both their safety and the safety of our children and families who are receiving meals. Please know, our staff are adhering to all safety precautions. Their choice to wear a mask or face covering is simply one more precaution.

**Access to Public Recreation:**
Correction: The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) has recommended that all schools temporarily close their playgrounds, courts, challenge courses, and other outdoor recreational spaces. As part of a community committed to mitigating the spread of Coronavirus and assuring the safety of all citizens, the MTSD has decided to follow this recommendation.

On Monday, April 6th, we will:
- Lock the gate to the fenced elementary school playground
- Lock the gate to the high school track
- Post all open recreational areas at both Herrick Avenue and Rebecca Lander Lane as closed to the public until further notice

We appreciate your cooperation with the Governor’s Stay Home, Stay Safe Order and keeping all Vermonters safe.