



DOVER SCHOOL DISTRICT

SAU 11

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Empowering all Learners

March 3, 2020

Dear Families and Staff,

The Dover School District is closely monitoring the current 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak and district leaders are in constant communication with state public health agencies to learn from and closely follow their recommendations.

While we have no known cases of COVID-19 in the Dover Community, we felt it best to have a plan in place that will be responsive to developments in the transmission of COVID-19. The Dover School District is implementing the following protocol regarding staff and student attendance while the COVID-19 outbreak remains active:

Those staff or students who have traveled to a Level 2, or 3 transmission area for COVID-19 as identified by the CDC (<https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices>) will be required to self-exclude from school and school related activities for 14 days after returning home. If you or your family meet these criteria, please notify the principal of your school immediately to make them aware.

Those who have traveled to a Level 1 transmission area as identified by the CDC (<https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices>) should adhere to the guidelines provided by the CDC shown below:

- Avoid contact with sick people.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Clean your hands often by washing them with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains 60%–95% alcohol. Soap and water should be used if hands are visibly dirty.
 - It is especially important to clean hands after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after coughing, sneezing or blowing your nose.
- Pay attention to your health during travel and for 14 days after you leave.

If you spent time in a Level 1 location during the past 14 days and feel sick with fever or cough or have difficulty breathing:

- Take your temperature.
- Seek medical advice. Call ahead before going to a doctor's office or emergency room. Tell them about your recent travel to an area with community spread coronavirus, and your symptoms.
- Avoid contact with others.
- Do not travel while sick.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when coughing or sneezing.

- Clean your hands by washing them with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains 60%–95% alcohol immediately after coughing, sneezing, or blowing your nose. Soap and water should be used if hands are visibly dirty.

Family or household members of persons who meet these criteria are not being excluded from school. They should adhere to guidelines outlined by the CDC as noted above.

We are reviewing all requests for spring travel, paying careful attention to US State Department and CDC guidelines and directives.

Schools are undergoing additional nighttime disinfecting on a variety of “touch” surfaces. Also, areas such as door handles and railings are being disinfected throughout the school day. You may hear your child discuss not putting their chair up at the end of the day or not being able to keep items on their desktop at night. This is to help our custodial staff with timely cleaning of all surfaces.

Additional information about coronavirus, including signs and symptoms, transmission and risk of exposure, what to do if you are exhibiting symptoms, and continuing updates about the disease are available at:

The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: www.cdc.gov

New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services: www.dhhs.nh.gov

We are also attaching a guidance document from NASP (National Association of School Psychologists) and NASN (National Association of School Nurses). This document provides some great information when talking with children about COVID-19 that you may find helpful.

And remember, wash your hands!

Respectfully,



William R. Harbron, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools