



PUBLIC SCHOOLS

MILTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02186

MARY C. GORMLEY
Superintendent of Schools
(617)-696-4808/09

DR. KAREN L. SPAULDING
Assistant Superintendent
For Curriculum & Human Resources
(617)-696-4811/12

DR. GLENN H. PAVLICEK
Assistant Superintendent
For Business Affairs
(617)-696-5041

February 27, 2020

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Staff:

The COVID-19 (2019 Novel Coronavirus) is an emerging health concern and we are closely monitoring this evolving situation. We understand that families have questions about the Coronavirus and how it may impact our schools and local community. For any public health matter, we take our guidance from State and Federal agencies, in particular the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) and The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The CDC is providing daily updates and recommendations that you may find helpful and informative. Please click on the following links to stay updated- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html> and www.mass.gov/2019coronavirus.

While this is a public health concern, the CDC continues to report that the immediate risk to the general public remains low at this time. Yet, in today's connected world, with a large number of District families traveling during school vacation weeks, the potential for infectious disease is always of concern. As with seasonal flu and strep infections, there are general precautions we can all take to remain as healthy as possible.

- Practice good hand hygiene. 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. Use Alcohol-based hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available.
- When coughing and sneezing, cover your mouth and nose with a tissue. You can also cough or sneeze into your sleeve. Throw used tissues in the trash and immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid sharing drinking glasses, cups, eating utensils, dishes, towels or other items. Wash these items thoroughly with soap and water after use.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick whenever possible.
- Practice other good health habits: Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at home, work or school, especially when someone is ill. Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids, and eat nutritious food.

25 Gile Road, Milton, Massachusetts 02186

The Milton Public School system does not and shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, gender identity, transgender status, gender transitioning, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, pregnancy/parenting status, marital status, sexual orientation, homelessness, or military status, in any of its programs, activities or operations. These include, but are not limited to, admissions, equal access to programs and activities, hiring and firing of staff, provision of and access to programs and services, as well as selection of volunteers, vendors and employers recruiting at the Milton Public Schools. We are committed to providing an inclusive and welcoming environment for all members of our staff, students, volunteers, subcontractors, and vendors. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Dr. Karen L. Spaulding, Asst. Superintendent for Curriculum & Human, 617-696-4812

It is 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 greater than 100.4, coughing, vomiting, diarrhea, any rash not yet diagnosed by a physician, red or pink itchy eye and/or drainage from eye, and any contagious illness such as chicken pox, strep throat, or flu.

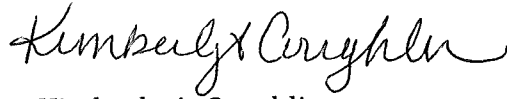
Please rest assured that we are monitoring student health concerns. We are in close communication with the local Board of Health, Massachusetts Department of Public Health/School Health Unit, as well as pediatric health care providers in the community. Our School Facilities Department is vigilantly sanitizing our educational spaces as we typically do during cold and flu season. We are following all recommended guidelines to ensure the safety of our students and staff.

We remain deeply committed to student and staff wellness and will continue to share new information with you, as necessary, about this evolving situation.

Sincerely,



Mary C. Gormley
Superintendent
Milton Public Schools



Kimberly A. Coughlin
Director of Nursing
Milton Public Schools

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