

SAU 93

603-352-6955

600 Old Homestead Highway, Swanzey NH 03446

www.mrsd.org

March 5th, 2020

Dear Monadnock Community;

I am writing today to update you on the current recommendations regarding COVID-19 (Coronavirus) and its impact on our schools and community. We want to assure you that the Monadnock Regional School District recognizes and shares your concerns. We have been in communication with health officials and are receiving regular updates and guidance regarding best practices for school environments.

As of March 4th, according to the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (NH DHHS), there are currently two presumptive positive cases of COVID-19 in New Hampshire. Additionally, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) has identified several countries as 'Warning Level 3 - Avoid Nonessential Travel', and travelers returning from these countries are asked to stay home and monitor their health for 14 days. These countries are Italy, Iran, South Korea, and China. The Monadnock Regional School District did not have any overseas school-sponsored travel groups over the February vacation. We do ask that any families that traveled to these countries notify the District and follow the self-quarantine guidelines issued by the CDC. While current guidance states that it is acceptable for any children who live with travelers to these countries to attend school, we ask that those children also follow the self-quarantine guidelines. Any absences related to COVID-19 will be considered excused.

The DHHS recommends adhering to everyday strategies that prevent the spread of any respiratory virus, including COVID-19. These include:

- Stay home when sick
- Cover mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing
- Wash hands frequently
- Avoid close contact with someone who is sick
- Avoid sharing food, drink, utensils, or other items that may transmit saliva
- Disinfect frequently touched surfaces

As a District, we are continuing to adhere to established procedures for cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched surfaces such as desks, countertops, doorknobs, computer keyboards, hands-on learning materials, faucets, railings, phones and toys. Practicing these measures at home can also help slow and prevent the spread of respiratory illnesses.

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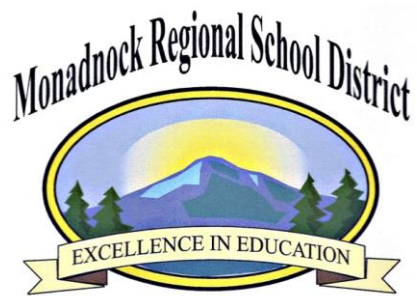
Janel Swanson
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This is a rapidly evolving situation, and we will be sure to update you as new information or recommendations become available. For the most up to date information regarding the Coronavirus, you can visit the CDC website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>, the World Health Organization website at <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>, or the NH DHHS website at <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/cdcs/2019-ncov.htm>. You can also reach out to the NH DHHS directly with any questions you may have at 603-271-9700. We hope that this information is helpful for you to make informed choices regarding you and your family's health and wellness.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Lisa A. Witte', with a stylized, cursive script.

Lisa A. Witte
Superintendent of Schools



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