

MERRIMACK SCHOOL DISTRICT

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March 4, 2020

Dear Parents, Guardians and Staff of the Merrimack School District-

On Monday the district shared information regarding Coronavirus (COVID-19), including information provided to school districts, health care settings and other community organizations from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) concerning best practices to avoid contagion. We have followed those guidelines explicitly. Since Monday, we have participated in several teleconference calls with officials from state health agencies, including the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and the Department of Education (DOE) to receive guidance from experts regarding updated protocols to follow in light of this evolving situation. This letter will serve as an update based on most recent information shared by these agencies.

This morning we learned that the DHHS and the CDC have issued updated recommendations regarding individuals who have traveled to any of the four countries identified as Level 3 for Coronavirus. Those countries are Italy, Iran, South Korea and China. Based on their updated recommendations we request that all staff members and students who have traveled to any of the four countries listed above within the last two weeks self-quarantine and do not attend school. Again, this request is based on updated recommendations from the CDC.

The period of self-quarantine is recommended to last 14 days.

If your recent travel has brought you to any of the countries listed above, please inform your school (for students) and principal (for staff) and we will work with you to support you during this time. For students, this means we will provide schoolwork so that studies may continue during the period of self-quarantine. Staff should consult with their school-based administration to discuss accommodations during their period of self-quarantine.

For your information I have included a link to the CDC website www.cdc.gov/COVID19 and other documents you may find useful.

If you have any questions regarding this updated information, please contact your child's school.

Sincerely,

Mark McLaughlin
Superintendent