

# DUDLEY-CHARLTON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Steven M. Lamarche**  
*Superintendent of Schools*

**Karen A. Ares**  
*Interim Assistant Superintendent of  
Teaching and Learning*



68 Dudley-Oxford Road  
Dudley, Massachusetts 01571  
508-943-6888  
508-943-1077 – fax  
[www.dcrsd.org](http://www.dcrsd.org)

**Lorinda C. Allen**  
*Director, Pupil Personnel Services*

**Richard J. Mathieu**  
*Director of Finance and Operations*

March 6, 2020

Dear Dudley-Charlton Parents and Caregivers,

We understand that many of you have questions regarding the outbreak of the Coronavirus or COVID-19 and how it is impacting our schools.

As a district we are taking this outbreak seriously and have been meeting regularly to ensure we are conducting infectious disease management throughout our schools. All of our custodial staff members have been hypervigilant in cleaning flat surfaces, bathrooms, hand rails, locker handles, water fountains and all areas of the school. All of our schools are equipped with and will utilize electrostatic disinfectant sprayers. The electrostatic spraying program is weekly and we are spraying high contact areas more frequently. Our bus vendor is utilizing wipes for flat surfaces and entry rails. They will also incorporate the electrostatic spraying moving forward. We have established a cleaning kit for all of our chrome carts and iPad carts. Our staff and students continue to have access to hand sanitizer throughout our schools.

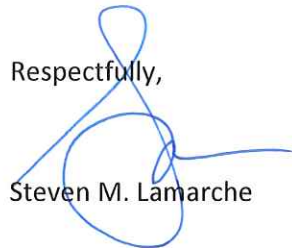
We also need your help to proactively prevent community transmission. It is critical and important for you to keep children home from school when they are ill. If your child has any of the following symptoms please keep them home: temperature greater than 100.4 Fahrenheit, vomiting, diarrhea, any rash not diagnosed by a medical professional, red or pink itchy eyes, a contagious illness like chicken pox, strep throat or the flu and excessive coughing. For additional guidance, we have excellent school nurses to assist with your questions of when to keep your child home.

As a district we are working with our town health directors and agents. We will coordinate before making any decisions or action steps regarding a self-quarantine, closing of a school or the closing of the district. As we monitor student health concerns, we have established requirements to communicate our concerns to our local health agents/director, Board of Health, and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health School Health Unit. We are following all recommended guidance to ensure the safety of our students and staff.

This afternoon we had a conference call with the Massachusetts Commissioner of Education who shared his efforts to support school districts across the Commonwealth. The goal is to prepare us in the event that we have an identified community transmission and are required to close schools for an extended period of time. We also learned, as of today, our state has one CDC confirmed case and seven presumed positive cases, none of which are identified as community transmission cases.

For up-to-date information from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) please use this URL <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html> and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health's URL <https://www.mass.gov/resource/information-on-the-outbreak-of-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19>.

We will continue to stay aware and be prepared as we are deeply committed to student and staff wellness. We will also share new information with you, as necessary, about this evolving situation.

Respectfully,  
  
Steven M. Lamarche