

Here is some updated information for you based on updates and recent events in Massachusetts. As you are aware, Governor Baker declared a state of emergency for Massachusetts in response to the current situation involving COVID-19 (coronavirus). Please be aware that although the number of diagnosed cases across the state has increased, there are currently no confirmed or suspected cases here in Agawam.

That being said, we are meeting both internally as a school department and in consultation with our partners in the Town Hall to ensure that we can address our responsibilities to keep our students, staff, and community safe. We are awaiting additional guidance this week from DESE and the Department of Public Health (DPH), but in the meantime we are taking the following steps:

- We are canceling, postponing, or modifying any events that include community members involving large numbers of outside people through April break. School Principals will be sending individual school messages with information that pertains to your son's or daughter's school.
- We have heightened our sanitizing/disinfecting program in each school, paying particular attention to high-touch surfaces.

Tomorrow morning, I will be on a conference call with the Commissioner of Education and DPH on which I expect to receive additional guidance. This will inform our decision-making for future events. We will communicate more information as it becomes available.

Thank you,

Steve Lemanski, Superintendent of Schools