

Good Morning,

This is Mr. Lemanski, Superintendent of Schools, contacting you with an update regarding the Coronavirus and the impact to our schools.

The most important information for you to know is the following: **We have no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the Agawam Public Schools. Local health officials will continue to take actions, based on consultation with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, and the Center for Disease Control.** Because we all know how fluid this situation is, we will continue to stay in close contact with our Director of Public Health, DPH and CDC for any new information or guidance. We are aware of decisions that have been made in other school districts, and we understand you are likely to have many questions about whether our district will be making those same decisions.

As a reminder, students and staff who are sick, are encouraged to stay home. The district will continue to respond to these situations with flexibility.

Please rest assured that I am in daily contact with the Agawam Health Department, which has the latest news on the virus as updated by the State Health agencies. As of today, we have been told that there has been no change in our immediate area with no confirmed cases of the virus. The closest confirmed cases are in Otis, MA. Our Health Department has been instructed by the CDC to hold the course and to follow advice provided on the Mass.gov website.

I am aware that there are many questions and concerns regarding what plans and actions the district may need to take. We are taking our guidance from the Governor, Commissioner of Education, CDC and our local Health Department. At this time, for the time period between March 11, 2020 until April 27, 2020, all out of state school travel will be cancelled. There is a press conference scheduled for the afternoon of March 12th where additional information will be shared on further preventative actions. At this time, we are continuing in district activities pending future direction. Decisions to limit or eliminate these events will be made through the guidance of state and local health professionals.

I will continue to make you aware of any future developments as they become available.

Thank you

Steve Lemanski