



WEYMOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Hello WPS Families,

During this period of remote learning, please find updated information for schools and COVID-19 related information on this page, as well as more information on <https://www.weymouthschools.org/district/urgent-alerts/remote-learning-and-updates>. Please be safe and do not hesitate to reach out if we can support you and your family.

**Sincerely,
Dr. Jennifer Curtis-Whipple**

June 26, 2020
Return to School Information from DESE
[Click here!](#)

June 25, 2020
June 25, 2020

Members of the Weymouth Community:

Today, Governor Baker's office and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education released their initial guidance about reopening schools this fall. We applaud the level of thought and care that went into the development of this guidance, and share its goal of the safe return of as many students as possible to in-person school settings in order to best meet students' academic, social, and emotional needs.

Over the coming days, we will be reviewing the guidance to begin to understand how it impacts what we can do in Weymouth. We also acknowledge that these initial guidelines do not address every topic and that there will be additional guidance coming throughout the summer. The full document can be found at [DESE Fall Reopening Guidance], but here are some key components:

- Current medical research supports a safe in-person return to school - with preventive measures in place - as infection and transmission rates are lower for children than adults.
- Preventive measures include masks/face coverings, physical distancing, handwashing, and cleaning frequently touched surfaces
- Masks/face coverings will be required for all students in Grade 2 and above and for all adults; they are recommended for students in Grade 1 and below.
- Based upon current medical research, and in conjunction with other preventive measures, a minimum physical distance of three feet has been established

Districts will need to develop three separate plans - one for return to full in-person instruction with safety requirements, one for full remote learning, and one for hybrid learning that combines in-person and remote learning. Based upon the current medical situation, the expectation today is that students will return to full in-person instruction in September; however, that is subject to change based upon how the medical situation develops.

We acknowledge that there are likely to be more questions than answers at this time, and we will continue to communicate with you in the coming weeks and months. We also encourage you to read the full document at [DESE Fall Reopening Guidance], and if you have questions to please send them to our dedicated email address: 2020reopen@weymouthschools.org

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Jennifer Curtis-Whipple, Ed.D.
Superintendent

May 13, 2020

[DESE family letter](#)

May 4, 2020 Nash Update

Dear Weymouth School Families,

After listening to your feedback about the potential closure of the Nash School and after extensive examination of the current \$2.2 million budget shortfall, we have decided to take the option of closing the Nash School off the table as a means to close the budget gap.

At my direction, Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations Brian Smith and many other staff members worked throughout the weekend to identify new mechanisms to help stabilize the budget.

We are pleased to announce that the district has developed a new proposal that will allow the school stay open. However, parents and residents should know that this new proposal will affect every school and department in the district and the impacts will be felt district-wide.

The full details of the proposal will be outlined at Tuesday night's Town Council Budget Management meeting, May 5. We encourage everyone to watch the meeting and participate with your feedback.

We understand that the recommendation to close Nash was a difficult one to consider, especially for our Nash families and staff. However, even more difficult decisions lie ahead and we want our school community to know that the children and their education are always at the forefront.

I will be offering an open forum meeting this Wednesday 3:30-4:30 via ZOOM to answer further questions. Please see the link below to access the meeting. School Committee will be holding a budget sub meeting starting at 6:00 on May 5th as well. I hope you join us at these meetings. Please find the link below for the 3:30-4:30 open forum.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jennifer Curtis-Whipple

Open for questions about Nash, Wednesday 3:30-4:30

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87482848116?pwd=Uks1bIB0SFF2ODEzUFNzMjFiRkN5QT09>

Meeting ID: 874 8284 8116

Password: 2YuN7x

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,87482848116#,,1#,227822# US (Germantown)

+13126266799,,87482848116#,,1#,227822# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 874 8284 8116

Password: 227822

April 21, 2020

**Remote Learning Extended Through
End of Academic Year**

**Gov. Baker Announced Extends Statewide School
Closure Through End of School Year**

WEYMOUTH -- Superintendent Jennifer Curtis-Whipple announces that, in accordance with a new order from Gov. Charlie Baker and the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Weymouth Public Schools (WPS) shall remain closed through the end of the 2019-2020 academic year as a precaution against the COVID-19 pandemic.

The statewide closure of schools, originally set to end on April 7 and previously extended to May 4, has been further extended through the end of the school year.

The last day of school in Weymouth is scheduled to be June 19.

While schools remain closed, the district's food pick-up service for students and families will continue. As a reminder, food pick-up is available at the Abigail Adams Middle School, 89 Middle St., and the Seach Primary School, 770 Middle St., Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. All children are eligible to receive meals and meals can be provided for five days per student. This service is free to all children in Weymouth.

All athletic programs, events and after school activities will remain suspended and fields, playgrounds and play areas will remain closed until further notice.

Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education Jeffrey Riley canceled MCAS for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year across grades 3-10. The Commissioner has not yet made a decision regarding competency determination for high school graduation.

Discussions about events like graduation, prom and academic awards ceremonies will be discussed in the coming days and weeks and further information will be shared as it becomes available.

"It's unfortunate to see our in-person school year cut short as we move the rest of the year to a remote learning curriculum, but we have anticipated this scenario," said Superintendent Curtis-Whipple. "With that being said, we would like to reassure our community members that we have planned for this and are prepared. We have the resources necessary to finish the academic year while providing remote resources for our students."

Remote Learning

Remote learning will continue through the end of the school year, June 19, and new content will continue to be introduced to students by their teachers. Students will focus on what the Department of Education refers to as "Power Standards." Power Standards are a subset of grade level standards that the Massachusetts Department of Education has determined to be the highest priority or most important for students to learn.

Commissioner Riley will be releasing additional guidance and recommendations to school districts statewide within the coming days.

Teachers, support staff, specialized staff, weycare staff and administrators have worked since the initial school closure to support students' connections to their school community and classwork. Maintenance staff, custodial staff, food service staff, transportation staff and other WPS employees continue to work on a daily basis to support the needs of our school community and ensure safe working environments in our buildings.

During the school closure, teachers and curriculum staff have remained vigilant and mindful of their individual students' needs and have made adjustments according to those needs. Teachers will continue to reach out to

students and families on a regular basis throughout the remainder of the school closure.

April 16, 2020

Remote Learning Expectations for Students and Families 2020

WEYMOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOLS EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS AND FAMILIES FOR APPROPRIATE USE OF REMOTE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Weymouth Public Schools (WPS) is dedicated to providing engaging and effective remote learning opportunities for our students. As part of our remote learning opportunities, WPS is offering some opportunities via a virtual platform. Prior to engaging in these remote educational opportunities, including virtual opportunities, Weymouth seeks to clarify expectations around appropriate use of virtual technologies for educational opportunities.

WPS strictly prohibits screenshots, pictures, audio/video recording and distribution, in whole or in part, of any remote educational experience in order to protect student privacy, proactively prevent potential cyberbullying, prevent the distribution of copyrighted materials and comply with Massachusetts law. Please note that in Massachusetts, it is illegal to record another person through any medium without his or her knowledge.

While parents/guardians are permitted, if necessary, to observe or assist in remote learning opportunities in a non-disruptive manner, all participants, by engaging in a remote learning opportunity, agree not to share any confidential student information (e.g. disability status) inadvertently learned about other student participants with any third party.

Students and families are reminded that remote learning opportunities via Google Meets/Hangouts will be taking place in the homes of our educators and students. All participants are reminded to dress appropriately and engage in educational opportunities in a private, distraction-free location within their home to extent practicable.

Students and families are reminded that during remote learning opportunities, students are still held to the policies and procedures in our School Handbooks, including the Acceptable Use Policy.

Students and families will be notified in advance of any virtual lessons via email invitation or phone call (for families without email access). For grades PK-6, Google Hangout/Meets invitations will be sent to parent emails/phones. For grades 7-12 Google Hangout/Meets Invitations will be sent to students' Weymouth Public Schools emails. This document serves as your advance notification of virtual learning sessions.

Virtual remote learning sessions allow access via computer, smart phone, or via call in from any phone

Weymouth Public Schools strongly encourages student participation in remote educational opportunities. Based on the Massachusetts Department of Education and WPS, schools are open and students are required to attend via remote options. If a parent/guardian is not comfortable with virtual sessions, please reach out to your child's principal.

By participating in/allowing my child to participate in WPS' virtual learning activities, I understand and agree to abide by the above requirements. By participating in/allowing my child to participate in WPS' virtual learning activities, I further understand and agree that my/my child's image and voice will be transmitted over the internet, into the homes of other students and staff, and that WPS, while taking measures to secure transmission, cannot guarantee or warrant complete confidentiality of my/my child's voice or image while participating in online learning.

For questions regarding school policies and procedures, the Weymouth Public Schools directs parties to: the School Handbooks and Acceptable Use Policy which can be found on the [District Website](#).

*If there is a documented disability-based need for a student to record video/audio, consistent with the student's IEP or 504 plan, please contact the school principal and/or special education administrator to review this need. Under no circumstances should recording take place without the approval of the district.

April 16, 2020

School is in session April 21-24.

Frequently Asked Questions General Questions	
Q.	When is the last day of school?
A.	Weymouth will be in school through June 19, 2020. The last day of school for seniors is still being discussed.
Q.	Currently the schools are closed through May 4, 2020. Will this be extended? How will we be notified?
A.	The Weymouth Public Schools will continue to monitor this fluid situation and will make the best determinations in the best interest of the students and staff. Information will continue to be provided via our website, and on all major news outlets.
Q.	What will happen to April vacation (April 21-24)?
A.	April vacation has been cancelled. School will be held Tuesday-Friday. Monday of the week is a holiday.

Q.	Will there be access to any school buildings during this closure?
A.	At this time, all school buildings are closed to everyone for a deep cleaning. The Central Office at 111 Middle Street, will have very limited staffing during this time. We ask that you call or email if you have any questions. The office is closed to public access due to the Governor's request for social distancing.
Q.	How will the school community provide information on travel, health, and other important factors that will help us to determine our readiness to reopen?
A.	The district is currently working with Town Officials and the Department of Public Health to make decisions and keep the community informed regarding the readiness to reopen in the future. This information will be communicated via all means available, including: social media and our website.
Q.	Will lunch services be available for all students?
A.	Lunch pickup is available at Adams and Seach three times a week. At these pickup periods, you will be able to receive food for the entire week.
Return to FAQs Menu	

April 15, 2020

Message From Rob Wargo

Hello Weymouth Public Schools Staff and Families,

During this unprecedented time of remote learning during the COVID-19 pandemic, the district is working hard to meet the needs of all students and families while making decisions that consider equity for all. As such, the district has determined that a designation of credit or no credit will replace traditional grades from the time of school closure through the end of the school year. This change in grading is temporary for the 2019-2020 school year and will be discontinued when students and staff return to school in the 2020-21 school year.

- Credit will be given to all students who participate in learning activities during this time of remote learning.
- No Credit will only be considered if students did not attempt to meet learning targets and were unwilling to participate. Teachers/administrators will contact parents to verify that technology access challenges, social/emotional issues, etc. do not exist. Teachers will discuss the possibility of no credit with the building administrator (Deans, AP, Principal) who will then contact Assistant Superintendent Wargo before a determination of no credit can be assigned.

The information below provides specific information relevant to the Prek- Grade 4, Grades 5-8, and Grades 9-12 including post graduates, CTE students, and Weymouth Evening School. Based upon the Department of Education, when school is in session, attendance is an expected part of the school day for students, it is important that students check in with their homeroom teachers and this will be considered when looking at credit during this time.

Preschool and Primary Schools

Grades 1 - 4 - will be grading credit/no credit for term 3 only

Kindergarten - will be grading credit/no credit for February 1st to end of June term

PreK - will be grading credit/no credit for February 1st to end of second term (T2K)

We will follow the standards-based report card while we continue with the remote learning phase. If school buildings reopen during the 2019-2020 school year, credit/no credit will still apply.

This change is temporary and will be discontinued when students and staff return to school for the 2020-2021 school year.

Middle Schools - Grades 5 - 8

Superterm consists of Quarter 3 and Quarter 4 including the continuation of semester courses that started Jan. 27th, 2020 and ending on the last day of school. Students will remain in Quarter 3 exploratory/elective courses through the end of the school year. Grading will be credit - no credit for grade for each quarter.

Semester 2 began on Jan. 27th and will be ending on the last day of school. If school buildings reopen during the 2019-2020 school year, credit/no credit will still apply.

Any incomplete or makeup work for Semester 2 assigned prior to school closures will not impact determination of credit/no credit for Semester 2. Students will not be expected to make up work assigned prior to school closures.

Weymouth High School - Grades 9 - Post grad

Superterm consists of Quarter 3 and Quarter 4 including the continuation of semester courses that started Jan. 27th, 2020 and ending on the last day of school. Grading will be credit - no credit for grade for each quarter.

Final Exams have been canceled. Grading for this year will be based on semester one grades and mid-terms along with credit/no credit for the superterm consisting of quarters 3 and 4.

Semester 2 will be ending on the last day of school. If school buildings reopen during the 2019-2020 school year, credit/no credit will still apply.

Any incomplete or makeup work for the superterm, assigned prior to school closures will not impact determination of credit/no credit for the superterm. Students will not be expected to make up work assigned prior to school closures.

1. High School students, Grade Point Average(GPA) will not be affected as this superterm (quarter 3 and 4 together) will not be calculated into GPA. High school students and families may be concerned about how this plan impacts their college aspirations. Universities across the country have communicated that students will not be penalized for missing traditional standardized tests or for grading terms of credit/no credit transcripts for this semester. One of the most clear explanations of the assurances our students should expect comes from Harvard University – their complete letter can be found [here](#).
2. The High School will work with students who failed courses regarding possible credit recovery for Semester 1 (Terms 1 and 2). Priority will be given to seniors to utilize online learning platforms to acquire credit - more information will be forthcoming.
3. Weymouth Evening High School - semester 2 grading will be credit/no credit

Regards,

Rob Wargo

Asst. Superintendent Instructional Services and Support
Weymouth Public Schools

April 14, 2020

Message From Principal Perez

Good Evening,

It's hard to believe that we've been out of school for almost 4 weeks, navigating such turbulent times. I (and all of the Johnson ECC staff) miss seeing our students but hope that you and your families are well and healthy? As you are aware, WPS is now in full swing with the remote model of learning for all students.

What can our Johnson ECC families expect?

[April Calendar 2020 \(1\).pdf](#) [Nurse letter to JECC families.docx](#)

- Families should expect emails each Monday morning, from JECC staff, with the learning plan for the week. Remote learning plans are also posted on the WPS website. <https://remotelearning.weymouthps.org/prek-6th-grade>
- Daily Check in meetings at 9:00 a.m.
- Daily office hours so that our families can connect to teaching staff for support

I've visited many of our classes during the morning check in time and it's been wonderful to see so many of our students. The check in time is meant to be just that—a check in. If

you are unable to attend the check in or your child can only stay on for a few minutes at any time during those 20 minutes, please know that is ok. Office hours are set up to support our families to carry out learning plans at home, offer strategies for students, help navigate the technology/ website, or questions/concerns that you may have. Please reach out to your child's teacher to have a conversation during their scheduled times that they have shared with you.

We hope that you are able to take advantage of all that we have to offer but please know we understand if this presents a challenge at home during this time. Let us know so that we can help provide support to you.

Attached you will find:

- Letter from Nurse Hilton regarding office hours for any parent that wishes to contact her and important COVID 19 resource links.
- The Weymouth CFCE weekly calendar (Coordinated Family Community Engagement). All Weymouth families are welcome to attend any of our programs. You can register for weekly calendars and information via the website. <https://www.weymouthchildfamilycommunitycenter.com/>

Remember to take some time to care for yourself. A few minutes of “you time” can help to recharge you so that you can be at your best.

If you have any questions or concerns please reach out via email.

Stay Safe! Be Well!

Maura Perez, Principal

April 13, 2020

From Principal Costello at the Murphy School

Good morning, Murphy Families-

I hope you are doing well and that you are able to engage in your current learning format as we start our first full week of Remote Learning. Again, if you need any assistance getting connected, please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher.

I'm pleased to let you know that our Term 2 report cards will be mailed home early this week. Once you have received these reports, please let your teacher or service provider know if you have any questions or concerns. Term 2 specialist summaries (Art, Music, Physical Education, Steam) are attached to this notice.

[Term 2 Art Summary.pdf](#) [Term 2 Music Summary.pdf](#) [Term 2 Phys Ed Summary.pdf](#) [Term 2 STEAM Summary.pdf](#)

April 7, 2020

Please see the attached letter from the Weymouth School Committee.

[letter to families - school committee 4 7 20 \(1\).pdf](#)

March 18, 2020

Helpful FAQ doc

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1OOrL5_qyCntoHJT1vmD3kDC5ioUPTkfnfcvYFA9rDI

Potential Support Source for Families:
These are unprecedented times, and it's inspiring to see communities rising to the challenge. However, not everyone

has the resources to "shelter in place" especially the millions of people in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Living paycheck to paycheck is hard when millions of businesses around the nation are closing down indefinitely, and hourly workers (including those dependent upon tips) are the hardest hit. In particular, families with kids whose primary meals happen at school are especially vulnerable when those schools shut down.

With this in mind, [Expensify.org](https://www.expensify.org) is going to temporarily redirect all of its charitable funds to [Expensify.org/hunger](https://www.expensify.org/hunger). With its ability to reimburse volunteers directly in

real-time, Expensify.org is uniquely positioned to help families in need immediately. Until today, this fund was focused on paying off kids' "lunch debts" , but with schools closed around the nation, that isn't the top priority. Instead, we're devoting everything to a new program: matching SNAP grocery purchases up to \$50 per family. It works like this:

Purchase food as normal with your SNAP card

Download Expensify on iOS or Android, for free

Join the [Expensify.org/hunger](https://expensify.org/hunger) policy

SmartScan the receipt, which will tell us how much you paid and show that it was

**paid for with an Electronic Benefits
Transfer (EBT) card**

Submit it to volunteer@expensify.org

**Set up your bank account to receive the
funds**

**So long as we have funds available, we
will reimburse up to \$50 per family (one
time), the very next day.**

**To be clear, we can't commit to
reimbursing every single person in need
— we have no idea how many people
will do this, and unfortunately, we don't
have unlimited funds. We also don't
know how long this crisis will last and
how far our brand new charity's
resources will stretch. But we're going
to do what we can with the funds
donated on behalf of Expensify
Cardholders via the Karma Points**

feature, as well as by the extremely generous donors who have signed up for our Corporate and Personal Karma programs.

This is a truly global crisis, and it is only beginning. We all need to work together to weather the storm, and on behalf of Expensify.org's many generous members, we're eager to help.

-david

President of Expensify.org

PS: While you may not personally be on SNAP, please forward this along to anyone based in the US (where the SNAP program operates) you know that

may need food assistance — or to any other groups or organizations who might be able to spread the word that help is available. Helping our local communities is what Expensify.org is all about!

March 17, 2020

Great resource to review:

https://fordhaminstitute.org/national/commentary/resources-learning-home-during-covid-19-school-closures?mc_cid=31a7a1a0e8&mc_eid=c5abfdb7b4

March 16, 2020

SAT update about testing.

[SAT Testing information](#)

March 16, 2020

[Town of Weymouth Website information updated.](#)

March 16, 2020

All School Offices are CLOSED to the public. We will post information when this status changes.

Update on Spring Sport Season

March 16, 2020

The MIAA Board of Directors voted today, March 16, 2020, to amend the start of the 2020 spring sports season in light of recent mandates from Governor Baker and recommendations from governing health agencies. The updated start date for the 2020 spring season is April 27, 2020.

Additionally, the MIAA Board of Directors voted to have completion of regular season and tournament games by June 20, 2020 with consideration of June 21, 2020 for weather and facility needs.

Details regarding the structure of the spring season will be addressed by the Tournament Management Committee (TMC). An update will be provided and reviewed by the Board by March 25, 2020.

These decisions are based on available information and are made in the best interest of our student-athletes, schools and communities. These decisions will be revisited and adjusted as needed.

Thank you for your patience while dealing with this very fluid situation. Be well.



March 16, 2020

Click Here to sign up for student lunches!

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSftj_O2Y4e6SH_J54Z2aJWsXQIhc7bxiUPdM-32aZYIXZtCWQ/viewform

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSftj_O2Y4e6SH_J54Z2aJWsXQIhc7bxiUPdM-32aZYIXZtCWQ/viewform

March 13, 2020 Communication From Town Hall

With COVID-19 now recognized as a global pandemic, and after much communication with our department heads, the state Department of Public Health, the Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as well as South Shore Health Systems, Mayor Robert Hedlund has implemented a local Emergency Declaration that includes specific guidelines for town events, programming, and operations that will be in place through at least March 30, 2020. “The health and protection of every resident is our primary concern. While we are not aware of any confirmed or presumed COVID-19 cases in Weymouth as of today, we are planning under the assumption that will change given the increase in testing and the expected growth rate in confirmed and presumed cases, based on information provided to us by Medical Professionals including South Shore Health Systems, who are on the front lines of dealing with this pandemic,” said hedlund. The town has already taken and will continue to take the following steps to respond to COVID-19:

1. Created emergency response protocols to minimize exposure to our First Responders.
 2. Posted signage in municipal buildings to educate people about COVID facts, personal protection and asking them not to enter public buildings if they have flu like symptoms.
 3. Conducting enhanced sanitizing of surfaces with in buildings, vehicles and outside structures.
 4. Posted links on our website to the DPH and CDC coronavirus pages.
 5. Consulted with town and school departments about meeting cancelation and modifications.
 6. Consulted with town and school departments about travel restrictions and limitations.
 7. Participating in numerous conference calls and webinars to stay up with the latest information regarding COVID, from multiple state, federal and private sector sources.
- The Town of Weymouth is moving forward with stricter precautionary measures to help

slow the spread of COVID-19. "We understand these decisions will have an impact on many in our community. These decisions are based on current conditions and are being made with utmost precaution. The COVID-19 situation is extremely fluid, with some information changing by the hour, and our actions will be adjusted as the circumstances dictate," said Hedlund. The Emergency Declaration is an administrative tool that allows municipal government to access state and federal resources to better serve the community as COVID-19 evolves. It also allows us to more quickly and efficiently utilize and coordinate municipal services, equipment, supplies, and facilities. The following measures are in effect immediately through March 30, 2020: - All programming and events at the Weymouth Elder Services are suspended. Outreach, Transportation, SHINE, and AARP Tax assistance will continue to take place for now. In addition, Meals on Wheels by South Shore Elder Services will continue to use the McCulloch building for food preparation and delivery to area seniors. - All group programming at Weymouth Public Libraries is suspended. Each branch will remain open for regularly scheduled hours. - All group programming at the Weymouth Teen Center is suspended. Individual assistance through Youth and Family Services will still be available. - Weymouth Schools have announced that classes and all school activities will be cancelled. - The Town will not issue any special event permits and we will be in contact with Organizers of currently approved events to consider postponing or cancelling. This includes organized events permitted through the Recreation Department. - All non-essential government meetings will be cancelled. Using the Governor's order on making public meetings more available by phone or conference call as guidance, we are working to procure means to hold essential meetings remotely. We will also encourage limited (essential) agendas and encourage postponements when possible. We also ask residents to participate by these remote means when possible. We will be providing more detail soon on these alternative means of public participation to essential public meetings during this emergency. - We are asking residents and the public to utilize the Town website, phone calls, and email to conduct town-related business when possible. Contact info for town departments can be found at <https://www.weymouth.ma.us/departments>. The link to pay bills online is on the front page of the Town's main page - <https://www.weymouth.ma.us>. You may also call the Town's main line at 781-335-2000 or the Mayor's office at 781-340-5012. In addition to the emergency declaration, we are announcing recommendations and guidance pertaining to town employees and operations. The mayor encourages businesses and community organizations to implement similar measures, as appropriate: 1. No travel outside of the state for any work-related purposes. 2. Employees must stay home when sick with flu-like or respiratory symptoms and should contact their health care provider. 3. Maintain personal hygiene practices and begin social distancing. - Wash hands often with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds. - Avoid touching your face. - Clean

things that are frequently touched like doorknobs, countertops, and light switches, with disinfectant cleaning spray or wipes. - Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or the inside of your elbow. - Reconsider personal travel outside of the United States. - Reconsider personal attendance at large scale events. - Keep at least 6' between you and people around you when in public. 4. If you have recently traveled to any countries of high level transmission and have symptoms of respiratory illness and/or fever or if you have come in contact with someone who meets these criteria, you should contact your, health care provider, the Massachusetts State Epidemiology line at 617-983-6800, or the Weymouth Health Department at 781-340 5008. Please call first, do not go to any medical facility without calling and informing them of your medical condition. The health care facility will determine if you are eligible to be tested for COVID-19. 5. Using sick time will be waived for employees who have been identified as COVID-19 positive or who are quarantined based upon public health guidelines. (The Town will work with impacted employees on a case-by-case basis to assess sick time use and associated documentation). Many businesses and community organizations have already been proactive and have cancelled events with mass gatherings. The Mayor and Health Department are urging all other organizations to do the same. For additional guidance on mitigation strategies, please visit:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/MA_Community_Mitigation.pdf

At this time, while we are cancelling the activities mentioned, the Town is not closing public buildings such as the McCulloch Building, libraries, and Town Hall. School buildings will be closed. Weymouth public spaces, such as parks and fields, will remain open. We encourage users to adhere to CDC guidelines when using the public space. These decisions are all subject to change as this is a very fast moving situation. Stay informed. As this is a new virus, unknown to the medical community, information about the virus changes by the minute. The best sources of accurate up to date information are available on the Mass Department of Public Health (DPH) Website www.mass.gov/2019coronavirus and the Center for Disease Control (CDC) Website: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov For more information, please contact Chief of Staff Ted Langill, Office of the Mayor, 781-853-8821

March 13, 2020 Communication

To all of our Johnson Families:

Due to the closure of the Weymouth Public Schools beginning today through March 27th the following events have been cancelled:

- Saturday March 21st from 9:00-11:00 the Johnson ECC Open House
- Kindergarten Parent Orientation Meeting on March 25th from 6:30-7:30

At this time, we do not know if these events will be able to be rescheduled. As soon as we have more information we will let you know.

Thank you for your patience.

Maura Perez
Principal
Johnson Early Childhood Center

March 13, 2020 Communication

March 13, 2020

Dear WPS Community,

We have been working over the past week to address the ever evolving and unprecedented, coronavirus, COVID-19, and its impact on our community and appreciate your patience as we continue to manage this rapidly changing situation. The information contained in this correspondence is based on information gained by participation in conference calls with the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (MDESE) and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH). The plans outlined below are being implemented in collaboration with town departments, neighboring communities, and are fully supported by the Weymouth School Committee.

The Weymouth Public Schools Administrative team believes it is prudent to take preventative steps to reasonably address the health and safety of the district. The purpose of this communication is to share our next steps. As always, we want to provide the safest and healthiest environment possible for our students, staff and community.

Weymouth Public Schools will be closed starting at dismissal today through March 27th. We plan on reopening on Monday, March 30, 2020, but as you know this is a fluid situation and we will be in communication over the next two weeks.

Reasons supporting WPS school closures:

- Our maintenance and custodial staff will be doing a deep clean in all of our buildings.
- Though there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the District, the concern for the health and wellness of students, staff, and residents of Weymouth with compromised immune systems is paramount.
- There is a heightened regional concern of risk of cross-contamination from outside of our community.
- Social distancing will help decrease the likelihood of spreading any potential cases.
- 27 Districts including South Shore Superintendents have worked together to respond to this situation.

WPS Building Access: Beginning tomorrow, March 14, 2020, WPS students, staff and community members will not have access to schools.

Parent/Guardian Meetings: All parent/guardian meetings are cancelled for a minimum of two weeks. This includes building based and district wide parent/guardian meetings.

Out of District Students: Special education students who are placed at public or private special education day schools, will not be attending school during this time period. Residentially placed students will be contacted by the residential schools regarding any school or residence closures.

WPS- Travel Trips and Overnights: Effective immediately, all international and domestic travel including Camp Bournedale, museum overnights, etc. have been cancelled for the remainder of this school year. We understand that this will be disappointing to many, and understand that some of you may experience a financial loss. In this regard, we are working with a regional group of superintendents to advocate on your behalf.

Field Trips: Effective immediately, ALL field trips outside of the District will be cancelled through the end of the school year. Details regarding cancelled events will be forthcoming from your building Administrator. All High School internships will be handled on a case by case basis.

Before/After/Weekend School Activities: All activities outside of the school day are cancelled until further notice. No NEW activities outside of the school day will be scheduled from now until the end of the school year.

High School Athletics: The spring sports season will be delayed and is scheduled to begin on March 30, 2020. No practices of any kind, try-outs, scrimmages, or workouts at Weymouth High School are to take place before March 30, 2020.

Nutritional Needs: Beginning Tuesday, March 17, 2020 student meals will be available for pick up between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. at Seach Primary School and Abigail Adams Middle School. Each student meal will consist of a bagged lunch each day. This program will be available each week day, beginning Tuesday, during this two week closure.

Weymouth Evening High School: All Weymouth Evening High School classes and events will also be cancelled during this time.

We know this is a difficult and trying situation for the entire community. As parents/guardians, you may be wondering about the best way to talk to your child about the virus and the impact it is having on their world. A number of resources are available on the district website to help guide these conversations. Academic opportunities will be readily available on the website as well. Please know that during this two week closure, there are no mandatory or graded assignments.

We appreciate all of the emails we have received from concerned WPS families and community members. While we are unable to respond to each email individually, please know that we are fully dedicated to taking proactive steps to ensure that our schools continue to be safe and healthy environments for all children and staff.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Curtis-Whipple, Ed.D.
Superintendent

March 13, 2020 Communication

From Athletics Department

Hello Parents,

The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) has decided to postpone the start of Spring Athletics until Monday, March 30th, 2020. Please find below the information from the MIAA on this postponement.

"The MIAA Board of Directors held a conference call this afternoon to discuss the status of the MIAA spring sport season scheduled to commence on Monday, March 16, 2020. The past couple of weeks has certainly provided our member schools with challenges related to the outbreak of COVID-19. The beginning of spring sports is just one of the many decisions that needs to be addressed.

After much discussion, the BOD decision is to delay the start of the 2020 spring season to March 30, 2020. Respecting the fluidity of this situation, this decision will be revisited prior to March 30.

This decision is based on available information from numerous health agencies and is made in the best interest of our student-athletes, schools and communities."

The Weymouth High School Athletic Department will continue to keep all coaches, student athletes, and parents informed of any and all changes.

Thank you,

Mia Muzio

Interim Athletic Director - Weymouth High School

March 13, 2020 Communication

From Athletics Maria Weston Chapman Middle School

March 13, 2020

Hello,

We wanted to reach out to all the families of students who are scheduled to go to Canada in April with an update. At this time, we are postponing the trip.

Our district and our community recognizes that we are in a period of uncertainty in which conditions and the availability of information are evolving rapidly. Our district will adhere to the following framework when making decisions about events, field trips, and changes to our operations.

Where explicit and clearly defined recommendations from public health officials (DPH, CDC, Board of Health) or the Governor's office are available we will adhere to them. At this time, those clearly defined recommendations include no international student travel.

We are currently working with the travel company in trying to find a new date for the trip. Once we are able to finalize a new date, we will share that with everyone. If that date does not work for your student, we will then be able to discuss other options for you. At this time we are asking that everyone hold tight until we have a new date to offer. It is important to remember that things are fluid. We will communicate when we have more information.

Thank you for your patience,

Rebecca Paulhus

Interim Associate Principal

Maria Weston Chapman Middle School

March 12, 2020 Communication

From Assistant Superintendent Robert Wargo

Dear Parents and Guardians:

As of Thursday, March 12th, the Weymouth School District will be amending its Attendance Procedures in response to the COVID-19 outbreak.

The ASPEN produced attendance letters will not be going out to families/guardians for the foreseeable future. We will suspend sending letters as we do not want students to feel pressured to attend school when not healthy enough to do so. By not sending the letters we hope to alleviate any additional undue stress on your family/guardian that is contending with a sick child.

We will continue to track and record student attendance. School personnel will be in contact with families/guardians if we have concerns about lack of attendance. At the same time we will trust the judgment families/guardians are using in determining whether or not a student goes to school.

We are closely monitoring this situation and will make any necessary changes as we receive updates from local, state and federal health agencies.

Sincerely,

Robert Wargo, Assistant Superintendent

March 12, 2020 Communication

Hello, Please know that we understand that the given health concerns may have students as well as families very anxious. The following resources may be helpful to support conversations during this difficult time.

Jen Curtis-Whipple

How to Talk to Children about the Coronavirus:

<https://www.health.harvard.edu/blog/how-to-talk-to-children-about-the-coronavirus-2020-30719111>

Talking to Teen/Tweens about Coronavirus:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/02/well/family/coronavirus-teenagers-anxiety.html>

**Here is a pamphlet from the article:

https://www.hemot.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Pamphlet_HEMOT_english.pdf

A Comic created from NPR based on interviews with experts:

<https://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2020/02/28/809580453/just-for-kids-a-comic-exploring-the-new-coronavirus>

The NASP released a resource for parents:

[https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-climate-safety-and-crisis/health-crisis-resources/talking-to-children-about-covid-19-\(coronavirus\)-a-parent-resource](https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-climate-safety-and-crisis/health-crisis-resources/talking-to-children-about-covid-19-(coronavirus)-a-parent-resource)

[CDC resource page](#)

March 12, 2020 Communication

Festival Competition for WHS update

<https://metg.org/news/2020/metg-postponing-all-metg-events-through-april-6-2020>

March 11, 2020 Communication

Dear Weymouth Families, Staff, and Community Members:

In an effort to regularly update our community regarding the action steps the district is instituting to address COVID-19 we want to first and foremost reiterate the health precaution guidelines set forth by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and the Center for Disease Control. We know that understanding the facts is the best way to combat misinformation that may currently be swirling around the virus. Given the ever changing landscape associated with this virus we must be prepared to adjust our practices, but again in the meantime we are adhering to the above mentioned recommendations.

Early Dismissal, Cancellations and Closures

Before making any determinations about an early dismissal, school cancellations or impact on school events we will thoroughly consider all available information and will continue to consult with local and federal health agencies to assist in the decision making process regarding presumptive and confirmed COVID-19 cases. A presumed positive case means the patient tested positive in the state lab but will not be “confirmed” until the test is verified by the federal Center for Disease Control. We do NOT have any confirmed cases in Weymouth at this time.

Calling or cancelling school for weather related issues provides its own set of issues but making decisions about applicable responses surrounding COVID-19 are far more complicated. We are addressing issues on a case by case basis. Our decisions are always driven by the safety of our students, staff and community. The decisions again are made in collaboration with internal and external personnel with expertise in particular fields. Our goal is to maintain a level of normalcy that enables everyone to thrive.

We understand that any and all actions taken by the school district have an impact on family and caregivers’ lives. We recommend that you begin to investigate alternative supports if school is released early or cancelled. The district will continue to transport students to and from school as normal including in the event of any unforeseen circumstance. Students that are dependent on a caregiver for pick up, know that your child will be supervised until such time that the child is picked up. However, High School students will be allowed to be dismissed early and leave by whatever method you already have in place for dismissal.

Please continue to follow all regular protocols and healthy hygiene practices. Please also note that a special page on our website has been dedicated to update you with information as well as provide resources for you. Please see this information at <https://www.weymouthschools.org/> .

*Sincerely,
Dr. Jennifer Curtis-Whipple
Superintendent Weymouth Public Schools*

March 9, 2020 Communication

Dear Students, Staff, Parents/Guardians,

We are writing to update everyone on the evolving plans surrounding COVID-19, travel, and the Federal, State, and local guidance surrounding this concern.

All upcoming international travel planned through Weymouth Public Schools and/or planned by any staff employed by Weymouth Public Schools will be canceled. This decision was not made lightly, and was made with the guidance of the CDC, Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education in conjunction with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, the Governor as well as our local Health Department.

If you were scheduled to attend any of the following trips, please contact the appropriate representative:

High School Italy Trip	-	Kristen Kames
High School England Trip	-	Matthew Porro
Middle School Montreal Trip	-	Patricia Boucher

We will be working closely with the guidance of the CDC, Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education in conjunction with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, the Governor as well as our local Health Department to monitor domestic travel changes that may impact US trips that may be traveling in the weeks to come.

If you are planning any international travel, independent of school trips, we kindly ask that you notify your school health office before having your student return to school. We will consult with the Town Department of Health as to any precautionary steps you should take for your student post travel, and your student's re-entry into the school setting. We ask that our WPS staff follow this same process.

As is recommended, in an effort to prevent spreading of everyday disease, continue to follow these strategies:

- Practice good hand hygiene.
- Wash your hands often and thoroughly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Use Alcohol-based hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available.
- When coughing and sneezing, cover your mouth and nose with a tissue. You can also cough or sneeze into your sleeve.
- Throw used tissues in the trash and immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid sharing drinking glasses, cups, eating utensils, dishes, towels or other items. Wash these items thoroughly with soap and water after use.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick whenever possible.
- Practice other good health habits: Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at home, work or school, especially when someone is ill.
- Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids, and eat nutritious food.

The Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) is an evolving situation that we are following closely and will continue to update you as information is shared with us. Please rest assured that we are monitoring student health concerns. We are in close communication with the local Board of Health, Massachusetts Department of Public Health/School Health Unit, as well as pediatric health care providers in the community. Our School Facilities Department is vigilantly sanitizing our educational spaces as we typically do during cold and flu season. We are following all recommended guidelines to ensure the safety of our students and staff.

We remain deeply committed to student and staff wellness and will continue to share new information with you, as necessary, about this evolving situation.

Sincerely,

Weymouth Public Schools

February 28, 2020 Communication

Dear Weymouth Families,

We understand that many families have questions regarding the recent outbreak of the Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) and how it may impact our local community. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is providing daily updates and recommendations. Please click on the following link to stay updated

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

While this is a public health concern, the CDC continues to report that the immediate risk to the general public remains low at this time. Yet, in today's connected world, with a large number of district families traveling during school vacation weeks, the potential for infectious disease is always of concern.

As with seasonal flu and strep infections, there are general precautions we can all take to remain as healthy as possible.

- Practice good hand hygiene. Wash your hands often and thoroughly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands. Use Alcohol-based hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available.
- When coughing and sneezing, cover your mouth and nose with a tissue. You can also cough or sneeze into your sleeve. Throw used tissues in the trash and immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

- Avoid sharing drinking glasses, cups, eating utensils, dishes, towels or other items. Wash these items thoroughly with soap and water after use.

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick whenever possible.

- Practice other good health habits: Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at home, work or school, especially when someone is ill. Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids, and eat nutritious food.

It is important to keep children home from school when they are ill, please communicate with your schools Health Office. If your child has any of the following symptoms, please keep them home from school:

temperature greater than 100.4, coughing, vomiting, diarrhea, any rash not yet diagnosed by a physician, red or pink itchy eye, and/or drainage from eye, and any contagious illness such as chicken pox, strep throat or flu.

For additional guidance on when to keep your student home, please refer to School Health Service guidance and reach out to your child's pediatrician. The Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) is an evolving situation that we are following closely and will continue to update you as information is shared with us. Please rest assured that we are monitoring student health concerns. We are in close communication with the local Board of Health, Massachusetts Department of Public Health/School Health Unit, as well as pediatric health care providers in the community. Our School Facilities Department is vigilantly sanitizing our educational spaces as we typically do during cold and flu season. We are following all recommended guidelines to ensure the safety of our students and staff. We remain deeply committed to student and staff wellness and will continue to share new information with you, as necessary, about this evolving situation.

Sincerely,

Weymouth Public Schools

Remote Learning Extended Through End of Academic Year

**Gov. Baker Announced Extends Statewide School
Closure Through End of School Year**

WEYMOUTH -- Superintendent Jennifer Curtis-Whipple announces that, in accordance with a new order from Gov. Charlie Baker and the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Weymouth Public Schools (WPS) shall remain closed through the end of the 2019-2020 academic year as a precaution against the COVID-19 pandemic.

The statewide closure of schools, originally set to end on April 7 and previously extended to May 4, has been further extended through the end of the school year.

The last day of school in Weymouth is scheduled to be June 19.

The extended closure of schools is an unprecedented step in limiting the potential spread of COVID-19 and continuing the practice of social distancing as more positive cases and deaths are announced in the state each day.

While schools remain closed, the district's food pick-up service for students and families will continue. As a reminder, food pick-up is available at the Abigail Adams Middle School, 89 Middle St., and the Seach Primary School, 770 Middle St., Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. All children are eligible to receive meals

and meals can be provided for five days per student. This service is free to all children in Weymouth.

All athletic programs, events and after school activities will remain suspended and fields, playgrounds and play areas will remain closed until further notice.

Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education Jeffrey Riley canceled MCAS for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year across grades 3-10. The Commissioner has not yet made a decision regarding competency determination for high school graduation.

Discussions about events like graduation, prom and academic awards ceremonies will be discussed in the coming days and weeks and further information will be shared as it becomes available.

"It's unfortunate to see our in-person school year cut short as we move the rest of the year to a remote learning curriculum, but we have anticipated this scenario," said Superintendent Curtis-Whipple. "With that being said, we would like to to reassure our community members that we have planned for this and are prepared. We have the resources necessary to finish the academic year while providing remote resources for our students."

Remote Learning

Remote learning will continue through the end of the school year, June 19, and new content will continue to be introduced to students by their teachers. Students will focus on what the Department of Education refers to as "Power Standards." Power Standards are a subset of grade level standards that the Massachusetts Department of Education has determined to be the highest priority or most important for students to learn.

Commissioner Riley will be releasing additional guidance and recommendations to school districts statewide within the coming days.

Teachers, support staff, specialized staff, weycare staff and administrators have worked since the initial school closure to support students' connections to their school community and classwork. Maintenance staff, custodial staff, food service staff, transportation staff and other WPS employees continue to work on a daily basis to support the needs of our school community and ensure safe working environments in our buildings.

During the school closure, teachers and curriculum staff have remained vigilant and mindful of their individual students' needs and have made adjustments according to those needs. Teachers will continue to reach out to students and families on a regular basis throughout the remainder of the school closure.

WEYMOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

111 Middle Street 🐾 Weymouth MA 02189 🐾 781-335-1460 (P) 🐾 781-335-8777 (F)

Jennifer Curtis-Whipple, Ed.D., Superintendent
Brian Smith, Assistant Superintendent
Robert Wargo, Assistant Superintendent

Jennifer.Whipple@weymouthschools.org
Brian.Smith@weymouthschools.org
Robert.Wargo@weymouthschools.org

Hello WPS Families,

During this period of remote learning, please find updated information for schools and COVID-19 related information on this page, as well as more information on <https://www.weymouthschools.org/district/urgent-alerts/remote-learning-and-updates>. Please be safe and do not hesitate to reach out if we can support you and your family.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jennifer Curtis-Whipple

April 21, 2020

April 16, 2020

Remote Learning Expectations for Students and Families 2020

**WEYMOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS AND FAMILIES FOR
APPROPRIATE USE OF REMOTE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES**

Weymouth Public Schools (WPS) is dedicated to providing engaging and effective remote learning opportunities for our students. As part of our remote learning opportunities, WPS is offering some opportunities via a virtual platform. Prior to engaging in these remote educational opportunities, including virtual opportunities, Weymouth seeks to clarify expectations around appropriate use of virtual technologies for educational opportunities.

WPS strictly prohibits screenshots, pictures, audio/video recording and distribution, in whole or in part, of any remote educational experience in order to protect student privacy, proactively prevent potential cyberbullying, prevent the distribution of copyrighted materials and comply with Massachusetts law. Please note that in Massachusetts, it is illegal to record another person through any medium without his or her knowledge.

While parents/guardians are permitted, if necessary, to observe or assist in remote learning opportunities in a non-disruptive manner, all participants, by engaging in a remote learning opportunity, agree not to share any confidential student information (e.g. disability status) inadvertently learned about other student participants with any third party.

Students and families are reminded that remote learning opportunities via Google Meets/Hangouts will be taking place in the homes of our educators and students. All participants are reminded to dress appropriately and engage in educational opportunities in a private, distraction-free location within their home to extent practicable.

Students and families are reminded that during remote learning opportunities, students are still held to the policies and procedures in our School Handbooks, including the Acceptable Use Policy.

Students and families will be notified in advance of any virtual lessons via email invitation or phone call (for families without email access). For grades PK-6, Google Hangout/Meets invitations will be sent to parent emails/phones. For grades 7-12 Google Hangout/Meets Invitations will be sent to students' Weymouth Public Schools emails. This document serves as your advance notification of virtual learning sessions.

Virtual remote learning sessions allow access via computer, smart phone, or via call in from any phone

Weymouth Public Schools strongly encourages student participation in remote educational opportunities. Based on the Massachusetts Department of Education and WPS, schools are open and students are required to attend via remote options. If a parent/guardian is not comfortable with virtual sessions, please reach out to your child's principal.

By participating in/allowing my child to participate in WPS' virtual learning activities, I understand and agree to abide by the above requirements. By participating in/allowing my child to participate in WPS' virtual learning activities, I further understand and agree that my/my child's image and voice will be transmitted over the internet, into the homes of other students and staff, and that WPS, while taking measures to secure transmission, cannot guarantee or warrant complete confidentiality of my/my child's voice or image while participating in online learning.

For questions regarding school policies and procedures, the Weymouth Public Schools directs parties to: the School Handbooks and Acceptable Use Policy which can be found on the [District Website](#).

*If there is a documented disability-based need for a student to record video/audio, consistent with the student's IEP or 504 plan, please contact the school principal and/or special education administrator to review this need. Under no circumstances should recording take place without the approval of the district.

April 16, 2020

School is in session April 21-24.

Frequently Asked Questions General Questions	
Q.	When is the last day of school?
A.	Weymouth will be in school through June 19, 2020. The last day of school for seniors is still being discussed.
Q.	Currently the schools are closed through May 4, 2020. Will this be extended? How will we be notified?
A.	The Weymouth Public Schools will continue to monitor this fluid situation and will make the best determinations in the best interest of the students and staff. Information will continue to be provided via our website, and on all major news outlets.
Q.	What will happen to April vacation (April 21-24)?
A.	April vacation has been cancelled. School will be held Tuesday-Friday. Monday of the week is a holiday.

Q.	Will there be access to any school buildings during this closure?
A.	At this time, all school buildings are closed to everyone for a deep cleaning. The Central Office at 111 Middle Street, will have very limited staffing during this time. We ask that you call or email if you have any questions. The office is closed to public access due to the Governor's request for social distancing.
Q.	How will the school community provide information on travel, health, and other important factors that will help us to determine our readiness to reopen?
A.	The district is currently working with Town Officials and the Department of Public Health to make decisions and keep the community informed regarding the readiness to reopen in the future. This information will be communicated via all means available, including: social media and our website.
Q.	Will lunch services be available for all students?
A.	Lunch pickup is available at Adams and Seach three times a week. At these pickup periods, you will be able to receive food for the entire week.
Return to FAQs Menu	

April 15, 2020

Message From Rob Wargo

Hello Weymouth Public Schools Staff and Families,

During this unprecedented time of remote learning during the COVID-19 pandemic, the district is working hard to meet the needs of all students and families while making decisions that consider equity for all. As such, the district has determined that a designation of credit or no credit will replace traditional grades from the time of school closure through the end of the school year. This change in grading is temporary for the 2019-2020 school year and will be discontinued when students and staff return to school in the 2020-21 school year.

- Credit will be given to all students who participate in learning activities during this time of remote learning.
- No Credit will only be considered if students did not attempt to meet learning targets and were unwilling to participate. Teachers/administrators will contact parents to verify that technology access challenges, social/emotional issues, etc. do not exist. Teachers will discuss the possibility of no credit with the building administrator (Deans, AP, Principal) who will then contact Assistant Superintendent Wargo before a determination of no credit can be assigned.

The information below provides specific information relevant to the Prek- Grade 4, Grades 5-8, and Grades 9-12 including post graduates, CTE students, and Weymouth Evening School. Based upon the Department of Education, when school is in session, attendance is an expected part of the school day for students, it is important that students check in with their homeroom teachers and this will be considered when looking at credit during this time.

Preschool and Primary Schools

Grades 1 - 4 - will be grading credit/no credit for term 3 only

Kindergarten - will be grading credit/no credit for February 1st to end of June term

PreK - will be grading credit/no credit for February 1st to end of second term (T2K)

We will follow the standards-based report card while we continue with the remote learning phase. If school buildings reopen during the 2019-2020 school year, credit/no credit will still apply.

This change is temporary and will be discontinued when students and staff return to school for the 2020-2021 school year.

Middle Schools - Grades 5 - 8

Superterm consists of Quarter 3 and Quarter 4 including the continuation of semester courses that started Jan. 27th, 2020 and ending on the last day of school. Students will remain in Quarter 3 exploratory/elective courses through the end of the school year. Grading will be credit - no credit for grade for each quarter.

Semester 2 began on Jan. 27th and will be ending on the last day of school. If school buildings reopen during the 2019-2020 school year, credit/no credit will still apply.

Any incomplete or makeup work for Semester 2 assigned prior to school closures will not impact determination of credit/no credit for Semester 2. Students will not be expected to make up work assigned prior to school closures.

Weymouth High School - Grades 9 - Post grad

Superterm consists of Quarter 3 and Quarter 4 including the continuation of semester courses that started Jan. 27th, 2020 and ending on the last day of school. Grading will be credit - no credit for grade for each quarter.

Final Exams have been canceled. Grading for this year will be based on semester one grades and mid-terms along with credit/no credit for the superterm consisting of quarters 3 and 4.

Semester 2 will be ending on the last day of school. If school buildings reopen during the 2019-2020 school year, credit/no credit will still apply.

Any incomplete or makeup work for the superterm, assigned prior to school closures will not impact determination of credit/no credit for the superterm. Students will not be expected to make up work assigned prior to school closures.

4. High School students, Grade Point Average(GPA) will not be affected as this superterm (quarter 3 and 4 together) will not be calculated into GPA. High school students and families may be concerned about how this plan impacts their college aspirations. Universities across the country have communicated that students will not be penalized for missing traditional standardized tests or for grading terms of credit/no credit transcripts for this semester. One of the most clear explanations of the assurances our students should expect comes from Harvard University – their complete letter can be found [here](#).
5. The High School will work with students who failed courses regarding possible credit recovery for Semester 1 (Terms 1 and 2). Priority will be given to seniors to utilize online learning platforms to acquire credit - more information will be forthcoming.
6. Weymouth Evening High School - semester 2 grading will be credit/no credit

Regards,

Rob Wargo

Asst. Superintendent Instructional Services and Support
Weymouth Public Schools

April 14, 2020

Message From Principal Perez

Good Evening,

It's hard to believe that we've been out of school for almost 4 weeks, navigating such turbulent times. I (and all of the Johnson ECC staff) miss seeing our students but hope that you and your families are well and healthy? As you are aware, WPS is now in full swing with the remote model of learning for all students.

What can our Johnson ECC families expect?

[April Calendar 2020 \(1\).pdf](#) [Nurse letter to JECC families.docx](#)

- Families should expect emails each Monday morning, from JECC staff, with the learning plan for the week. Remote learning plans are also posted on the WPS website. <https://remotelarning.weymouthps.org/prek-6th-grade>
- Daily Check in meetings at 9:00 a.m.
- Daily office hours so that our families can connect to teaching staff for support

I've visited many of our classes during the morning check in time and it's been wonderful to see so many of our students. The check in time is meant to be just that—a check in. If

you are unable to attend the check in or your child can only stay on for a few minutes at any time during those 20 minutes, please know that is ok. Office hours are set up to support our families to carry out learning plans at home, offer strategies for students, help navigate the technology/ website, or questions/concerns that you may have. Please reach out to your child's teacher to have a conversation during their scheduled times that they have shared with you.

We hope that you are able to take advantage of all that we have to offer but please know we understand if this presents a challenge at home during this time. Let us know so that we can help provide support to you.

Attached you will find:

- Letter from Nurse Hilton regarding office hours for any parent that wishes to contact her and important COVID 19 resource links.
- The Weymouth CFCE weekly calendar (Coordinated Family Community Engagement). All Weymouth families are welcome to attend any of our programs. You can register for weekly calendars and information via the website. <https://www.weymouthchildfamilycommunitycenter.com/>

Remember to take some time to care for yourself. A few minutes of “you time” can help to recharge you so that you can be at your best.

If you have any questions or concerns please reach out via email.

Stay Safe! Be Well!

Maura Perez, Principal

April 13, 2020

From Principal Costello at the Murphy School

Good morning, Murphy Families-

I hope you are doing well and that you are able to engage in your current learning format as we start our first full week of Remote Learning. Again, if you need any assistance getting connected, please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher.

I'm pleased to let you know that our Term 2 report cards will be mailed home early this week. Once you have received these reports, please let your teacher or service provider know if you have any questions or concerns. Term 2 specialist summaries (Art, Music, Physical Education, Steam) are attached to this notice.

[Term 2 Art Summary.pdf](#) [Term 2 Music Summary.pdf](#) [Term 2 Phys Ed Summary.pdf](#) [Term 2 STEAM Summary.pdf](#)

April 7, 2020

Please see the attached letter from the Weymouth School Committee.

[letter to families - school committee 4 7 20 \(1\).pdf](#)

March 18, 2020

Helpful FAQ doc

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1OOrL5_qyCntoHJT1vmD3kDC5ioUPTkfnfcvYFA9rDI

Potential Support Source for Families:
These are unprecedented times, and it's inspiring to see communities rising to the challenge. However, not everyone

has the resources to "shelter in place" especially the millions of people in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Living paycheck to paycheck is hard when millions of businesses around the nation are closing down indefinitely, and hourly workers (including those dependent upon tips) are the hardest hit. In particular, families with kids whose primary meals happen at school are especially vulnerable when those schools shut down.

With this in mind, [Expensify.org](https://www.expensify.org) is going to temporarily redirect all of its charitable funds to [Expensify.org/hunger](https://www.expensify.org/hunger). With its ability to reimburse volunteers directly in

real-time, Expensify.org is uniquely positioned to help families in need immediately. Until today, this fund was focused on paying off kids' "lunch debts" , but with schools closed around the nation, that isn't the top priority. Instead, we're devoting everything to a new program: matching SNAP grocery purchases up to \$50 per family. It works like this:

Purchase food as normal with your SNAP card

Download Expensify on iOS or Android, for free

Join the [Expensify.org/hunger](https://expensify.org/hunger) policy

SmartScan the receipt, which will tell us how much you paid and show that it was

**paid for with an Electronic Benefits
Transfer (EBT) card**

Submit it to volunteer@expensify.org

**Set up your bank account to receive the
funds**

**So long as we have funds available, we
will reimburse up to \$50 per family (one
time), the very next day.**

**To be clear, we can't commit to
reimbursing every single person in need
— we have no idea how many people
will do this, and unfortunately, we don't
have unlimited funds. We also don't
know how long this crisis will last and
how far our brand new charity's
resources will stretch. But we're going
to do what we can with the funds
donated on behalf of Expensify
Cardholders via the Karma Points**

feature, as well as by the extremely generous donors who have signed up for our Corporate and Personal Karma programs.

This is a truly global crisis, and it is only beginning. We all need to work together to weather the storm, and on behalf of Expensify.org's many generous members, we're eager to help.

-david

President of Expensify.org

PS: While you may not personally be on SNAP, please forward this along to anyone based in the US (where the SNAP program operates) you know that

may need food assistance — or to any other groups or organizations who might be able to spread the word that help is available. Helping our local communities is what Expensify.org is all about!

March 17, 2020

Great resource to review:

https://fordhaminstitute.org/national/commentary/resources-learning-home-during-covid-19-school-closures?mc_cid=31a7a1a0e8&mc_eid=c5abfdb7b4

March 16, 2020

SAT update about testing.

[SAT Testing information](#)

March 16, 2020

[Town of Weymouth Website information updated.](#)

March 16, 2020

All School Offices are CLOSED to the public. We will post information when this status changes.

Update on Spring Sport Season

March 16, 2020

The MIAA Board of Directors voted today, March 16, 2020, to amend the start of the 2020 spring sports season in light of recent mandates from Governor Baker and recommendations from governing health agencies. The updated start date for the 2020 spring season is April 27, 2020.

Additionally, the MIAA Board of Directors voted to have completion of regular season and tournament games by June 20, 2020 with consideration of June 21, 2020 for weather and facility needs.

Details regarding the structure of the spring season will be addressed by the Tournament Management Committee (TMC). An update will be provided and reviewed by the Board by March 25, 2020.

These decisions are based on available information and are made in the best interest of our student-athletes, schools and communities. These decisions will be revisited and adjusted as needed.

Thank you for your patience while dealing with this very fluid situation. Be well.



March 16, 2020

Click Here to sign up for student lunches!

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSftj_O2Y4e6SH_J54Z2aJWsXQIhc7bx_iUPdM-32aZYIXZtCWQ/viewform

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSftj_O2Y4e6SH_J54Z2aJWsXQIhc7bxiUPdM-32aZYIXZtCWQ/viewform

March 13, 2020 Communication From Town Hall

With COVID-19 now recognized as a global pandemic, and after much communication with our department heads, the state Department of Public Health, the Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as well as South Shore Health Systems, Mayor Robert Hedlund has implemented a local Emergency Declaration that includes specific guidelines for town events, programming, and operations that will be in place through at least March 30, 2020. “The health and protection of every resident is our primary concern. While we are not aware of any confirmed or presumed COVID-19 cases in Weymouth as of today, we are planning under the assumption that will change given the increase in testing and the expected growth rate in confirmed and presumed cases, based on information provided to us by Medical Professionals including South Shore Health Systems, who are on the front lines of dealing with this pandemic,” said hedlund. The town has already taken and will continue to take the following steps to respond to COVID-19:

1. Created emergency response protocols to minimize exposure to our First Responders.
 2. Posted signage in municipal buildings to educate people about COVID facts, personal protection and asking them not to enter public buildings if they have flu like symptoms.
 3. Conducting enhanced sanitizing of surfaces with in buildings, vehicles and outside structures.
 4. Posted links on our website to the DPH and CDC coronavirus pages.
 5. Consulted with town and school departments about meeting cancelation and modifications.
 6. Consulted with town and school departments about travel restrictions and limitations.
 7. Participating in numerous conference calls and webinars to stay up with the latest information regarding COVID, from multiple state, federal and private sector sources.
- The Town of Weymouth is moving forward with stricter precautionary measures to help

slow the spread of COVID-19. “We understand these decisions will have an impact on many in our community. These decisions are based on current conditions and are being made with utmost precaution. The COVID-19 situation is extremely fluid, with some information changing by the hour, and our actions will be adjusted as the circumstances dictate,” said Hedlund. The Emergency Declaration is an administrative tool that allows municipal government to access state and federal resources to better serve the community as COVID-19 evolves. It also allows us to more quickly and efficiently utilize and coordinate municipal services, equipment, supplies, and facilities. The following measures are in effect immediately through March 30, 2020: - All programming and events at the Weymouth Elder Services are suspended. Outreach, Transportation, SHINE, and AARP Tax assistance will continue to take place for now. In addition, Meals on Wheels by South Shore Elder Services will continue to use the McCulloch building for food preparation and delivery to area seniors. - All group programming at Weymouth Public Libraries is suspended. Each branch will remain open for regularly scheduled hours. - All group programming at the Weymouth Teen Center is suspended. Individual assistance through Youth and Family Services will still be available. - Weymouth Schools have announced that classes and all school activities will be cancelled. - The Town will not issue any special event permits and we will be in contact with Organizers of currently approved events to consider postponing or cancelling. This includes organized events permitted through the Recreation Department. - All non-essential government meetings will be cancelled. Using the Governor’s order on making public meetings more available by phone or conference call as guidance, we are working to procure means to hold essential meetings remotely. We will also encourage limited (essential) agendas and encourage postponements when possible. We also ask residents to participate by these remote means when possible. We will be providing more detail soon on these alternative means of public participation to essential public meetings during this emergency. - We are asking residents and the public to utilize the Town website, phone calls, and email to conduct town-related business when possible. Contact info for town departments can be found at <https://www.weymouth.ma.us/departments>. The link to pay bills online is on the front page of the Town’s main page - <https://www.weymouth.ma.us>. You may also call the Town’s main line at 781-335-2000 or the Mayor’s office at 781-340-5012. In addition to the emergency declaration, we are announcing recommendations and guidance pertaining to town employees and operations. The mayor encourages businesses and community organizations to implement similar measures, as appropriate: 1. No travel outside of the state for any work-related purposes. 2. Employees must stay home when sick with flu-like or respiratory symptoms and should contact their health care provider. 3. Maintain personal hygiene practices and begin social distancing. - Wash hands often with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds. - Avoid touching your face. - Clean

things that are frequently touched like doorknobs, countertops, and light switches, with disinfectant cleaning spray or wipes. - Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or the inside of your elbow. - Reconsider personal travel outside of the United States. - Reconsider personal attendance at large scale events. - Keep at least 6' between you and people around you when in public. 4. If you have recently traveled to any countries of high level transmission and have symptoms of respiratory illness and/or fever or if you have come in contact with someone who meets these criteria, you should contact your, health care provider, the Massachusetts State Epidemiology line at 617-983-6800, or the Weymouth Health Department at 781-340 5008. Please call first, do not go to any medical facility without calling and informing them of your medical condition. The health care facility will determine if you are eligible to be tested for COVID-19. 5. Using sick time will be waived for employees who have been identified as COVID-19 positive or who are quarantined based upon public health guidelines. (The Town will work with impacted employees on a case-by-case basis to assess sick time use and associated documentation). Many businesses and community organizations have already been proactive and have cancelled events with mass gatherings. The Mayor and Health Department are urging all other organizations to do the same. For additional guidance on mitigation strategies, please visit:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/MA_Community_Mitigation.pdf

At this time, while we are cancelling the activities mentioned, the Town is not closing public buildings such as the McCulloch Building, libraries, and Town Hall. School buildings will be closed. Weymouth public spaces, such as parks and fields, will remain open. We encourage users to adhere to CDC guidelines when using the public space. These decisions are all subject to change as this is a very fast moving situation. Stay informed. As this is a new virus, unknown to the medical community, information about the virus changes by the minute. The best sources of accurate up to date information are available on the Mass Department of Public Health (DPH) Website www.mass.gov/2019coronavirus and the Center for Disease Control (CDC) Website: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov For more information, please contact Chief of Staff Ted Langill, Office of the Mayor, 781-853-8821

March 13, 2020 Communication

To all of our Johnson Families:

Due to the closure of the Weymouth Public Schools beginning today through March 27th the following events have been cancelled:

- Saturday March 21st from 9:00-11:00 the Johnson ECC Open House
- Kindergarten Parent Orientation Meeting on March 25th from 6:30-7:30

At this time, we do not know if these events will be able to be rescheduled. As soon as we have more information we will let you know.

Thank you for your patience.

Maura Perez
Principal
Johnson Early Childhood Center

March 13, 2020 Communication

March 13, 2020

Dear WPS Community,

We have been working over the past week to address the ever evolving and unprecedented, coronavirus, COVID-19, and its impact on our community and appreciate your patience as we continue to manage this rapidly changing situation. The information contained in this correspondence is based on information gained by participation in conference calls with the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (MDESE) and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH). The plans outlined below are being implemented in collaboration with town departments, neighboring communities, and are fully supported by the Weymouth School Committee.

The Weymouth Public Schools Administrative team believes it is prudent to take preventative steps to reasonably address the health and safety of the district. The purpose of this communication is to share our next steps. As always, we want to provide the safest and healthiest environment possible for our students, staff and community.

Weymouth Public Schools will be closed starting at dismissal today through March 27th. We plan on reopening on Monday, March 30, 2020, but as you know this is a fluid situation and we will be in communication over the next two weeks.

Reasons supporting WPS school closures:

- Our maintenance and custodial staff will be doing a deep clean in all of our buildings.
- Though there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the District, the concern for the health and wellness of students, staff, and residents of Weymouth with compromised immune systems is paramount.
- There is a heightened regional concern of risk of cross-contamination from outside of our community.
- Social distancing will help decrease the likelihood of spreading any potential cases.
- 27 Districts including South Shore Superintendents have worked together to respond to this situation.

WPS Building Access: Beginning tomorrow, March 14, 2020, WPS students, staff and community members will not have access to schools.

Parent/Guardian Meetings: All parent/guardian meetings are cancelled for a minimum of two weeks. This includes building based and district wide parent/guardian meetings.

Out of District Students: Special education students who are placed at public or private special education day schools, will not be attending school during this time period. Residentially placed students will be contacted by the residential schools regarding any school or residence closures.

WPS- Travel Trips and Overnights: Effective immediately, all international and domestic travel including Camp Bournedale, museum overnights, etc. have been cancelled for the remainder of this school year. We understand that this will be disappointing to many, and understand that some of you may experience a financial loss. In this regard, we are working with a regional group of superintendents to advocate on your behalf.

Field Trips: Effective immediately, ALL field trips outside of the District will be cancelled through the end of the school year. Details regarding cancelled events will be forthcoming from your building Administrator. All High School internships will be handled on a case by case basis.

Before/After/Weekend School Activities: All activities outside of the school day are cancelled until further notice. No NEW activities outside of the school day will be scheduled from now until the end of the school year.

High School Athletics: The spring sports season will be delayed and is scheduled to begin on March 30, 2020. No practices of any kind, try-outs, scrimmages, or workouts at Weymouth High School are to take place before March 30, 2020.

Nutritional Needs: Beginning Tuesday, March 17, 2020 student meals will be available for pick up between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. at Seach Primary School and Abigail Adams Middle School. Each student meal will consist of a bagged lunch each day. This program will be available each week day, beginning Tuesday, during this two week closure.

Weymouth Evening High School: All Weymouth Evening High School classes and events will also be cancelled during this time.

We know this is a difficult and trying situation for the entire community. As parents/guardians, you may be wondering about the best way to talk to your child about the virus and the impact it is having on their world. A number of resources are available on the district website to help guide these conversations. Academic opportunities will be readily available on the website as well. Please know that during this two week closure, there are no mandatory or graded assignments.

We appreciate all of the emails we have received from concerned WPS families and community members. While we are unable to respond to each email individually, please know that we are fully dedicated to taking proactive steps to ensure that our schools continue to be safe and healthy environments for all children and staff.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Curtis-Whipple, Ed.D.
Superintendent

March 13, 2020 Communication

From Athletics Department

Hello Parents,

The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) has decided to postpone the start of Spring Athletics until Monday, March 30th, 2020. Please find below the information from the MIAA on this postponement.

"The MIAA Board of Directors held a conference call this afternoon to discuss the status of the MIAA spring sport season scheduled to commence on Monday, March 16, 2020. The past couple of weeks has certainly provided our member schools with challenges related to the outbreak of COVID-19. The beginning of spring sports is just one of the many decisions that needs to be addressed.

After much discussion, the BOD decision is to delay the start of the 2020 spring season to March 30, 2020. Respecting the fluidity of this situation, this decision will be revisited prior to March 30.

This decision is based on available information from numerous health agencies and is made in the best interest of our student-athletes, schools and communities."

The Weymouth High School Athletic Department will continue to keep all coaches, student athletes, and parents informed of any and all changes.

Thank you,

Mia Muzio

Interim Athletic Director - Weymouth High School

March 13, 2020 Communication

From Athletics Maria Weston Chapman Middle School

March 13, 2020

Hello,

We wanted to reach out to all the families of students who are scheduled to go to Canada in April with an update. At this time, we are postponing the trip.

Our district and our community recognizes that we are in a period of uncertainty in which conditions and the availability of information are evolving rapidly. Our district will adhere to the following framework when making decisions about events, field trips, and changes to our operations.

Where explicit and clearly defined recommendations from public health officials (DPH, CDC, Board of Health) or the Governor's office are available we will adhere to them. At this time, those clearly defined recommendations include no international student travel.

We are currently working with the travel company in trying to find a new date for the trip. Once we are able to finalize a new date, we will share that with everyone. If that date does not work for your student, we will then be able to discuss other options for you. At this time we are asking that everyone hold tight until we have a new date to offer. It is important to remember that things are fluid. We will communicate when we have more information.

Thank you for your patience,

Rebecca Paulhus

Interim Associate Principal

Maria Weston Chapman Middle School

March 12, 2020 Communication

From Assistant Superintendent Robert Wargo

Dear Parents and Guardians:

As of Thursday, March 12th, the Weymouth School District will be amending its Attendance Procedures in response to the COVID-19 outbreak.

The ASPEN produced attendance letters will not be going out to families/guardians for the foreseeable future. We will suspend sending letters as we do not want students to feel pressured to attend school when not healthy enough to do so. By not sending the letters we hope to alleviate any additional undue stress on your family/guardian that is contending with a sick child.

We will continue to track and record student attendance. School personnel will be in contact with families/guardians if we have concerns about lack of attendance. At the same time we will trust the judgment families/guardians are using in determining whether or not a student goes to school.

We are closely monitoring this situation and will make any necessary changes as we receive updates from local, state and federal health agencies.

Sincerely,

Robert Wargo, Assistant Superintendent

March 12, 2020 Communication

Hello, Please know that we understand that the given health concerns may have students as well as families very anxious. The following resources may be helpful to support conversations during this difficult time.

Jen Curtis-Whipple

How to Talk to Children about the Coronavirus:

<https://www.health.harvard.edu/blog/how-to-talk-to-children-about-the-coronavirus-2020-30719111>

Talking to Teen/Tweens about Coronavirus:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/02/well/family/coronavirus-teenagers-anxiety.html>

**Here is a pamphlet from the article:

https://www.hemot.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Pamphlet_HEMOT_english.pdf

A Comic created from NPR based on interviews with experts:

<https://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2020/02/28/809580453/just-for-kids-a-comic-exploring-the-new-coronavirus>

The NASP released a resource for parents:

[https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-climate-safety-and-crisis/health-crisis-resources/talking-to-children-about-covid-19-\(coronavirus\)-a-parent-resource](https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-climate-safety-and-crisis/health-crisis-resources/talking-to-children-about-covid-19-(coronavirus)-a-parent-resource)

[CDC resource page](#)

March 12, 2020 Communication

Festival Competition for WHS update

<https://metg.org/news/2020/metg-postponing-all-metg-events-through-april-6-2020>

March 11, 2020 Communication

Dear Weymouth Families, Staff, and Community Members:

In an effort to regularly update our community regarding the action steps the district is instituting to address COVID-19 we want to first and foremost reiterate the health precaution guidelines set forth by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and the Center for Disease Control. We know that understanding the facts is the best way to combat misinformation that may currently be swirling around the virus. Given the ever changing landscape associated with this virus we must be prepared to adjust our practices, but again in the meantime we are adhering to the above mentioned recommendations.

Early Dismissal, Cancellations and Closures

Before making any determinations about an early dismissal, school cancellations or impact on school events we will thoroughly consider all available information and will continue to consult with local and federal health agencies to assist in the decision making process regarding presumptive and confirmed COVID-19 cases. A presumed positive case means the patient tested positive in the state lab but will not be “confirmed” until the test is verified by the federal Center for Disease Control. We do NOT have any confirmed cases in Weymouth at this time.

Calling or cancelling school for weather related issues provides its own set of issues but making decisions about applicable responses surrounding COVID-19 are far more complicated. We are addressing issues on a case by case basis. Our decisions are always driven by the safety of our students, staff and community. The decisions again are made in collaboration with internal and external personnel with expertise in particular fields. Our goal is to maintain a level of normalcy that enables everyone to thrive.

We understand that any and all actions taken by the school district have an impact on family and caregivers’ lives. We recommend that you begin to investigate alternative supports if school is released early or cancelled. The district will continue to transport students to and from school as normal including in the event of any unforeseen circumstance. Students that are dependent on a caregiver for pick up, know that your child will be supervised until such time that the child is picked up. However, High School students will be allowed to be dismissed early and leave by whatever method you already have in place for dismissal.

Please continue to follow all regular protocols and healthy hygiene practices. Please also note that a special page on our website has been dedicated to update you with information as well as provide resources for you. Please see this information at <https://www.weymouthschools.org/> .

*Sincerely,
Dr. Jennifer Curtis-Whipple
Superintendent Weymouth Public Schools*

March 9, 2020 Communication

Dear Students, Staff, Parents/Guardians,

We are writing to update everyone on the evolving plans surrounding COVID-19, travel, and the Federal, State, and local guidance surrounding this concern.

All upcoming international travel planned through Weymouth Public Schools and/or planned by any staff employed by Weymouth Public Schools will be canceled. This decision was not made lightly, and was made with the guidance of the CDC, Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education in conjunction with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, the Governor as well as our local Health Department.

If you were scheduled to attend any of the following trips, please contact the appropriate representative:

High School Italy Trip	-	Kristen Kames
High School England Trip	-	Matthew Porro
Middle School Montreal Trip	-	Patricia Boucher

We will be working closely with the guidance of the CDC, Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education in conjunction with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, the Governor as well as our local Health Department to monitor domestic travel changes that may impact US trips that may be traveling in the weeks to come.

If you are planning any international travel, independent of school trips, we kindly ask that you notify your school health office before having your student return to school. We will consult with the Town Department of Health as to any precautionary steps you should take for your student post travel, and your student's re-entry into the school setting. We ask that our WPS staff follow this same process.

As is recommended, in an effort to prevent spreading of everyday disease, continue to follow these strategies:

- Practice good hand hygiene.
- Wash your hands often and thoroughly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Use Alcohol-based hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available.
- When coughing and sneezing, cover your mouth and nose with a tissue. You can also cough or sneeze into your sleeve.
- Throw used tissues in the trash and immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid sharing drinking glasses, cups, eating utensils, dishes, towels or other items. Wash these items thoroughly with soap and water after use.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick whenever possible.
- Practice other good health habits: Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at home, work or school, especially when someone is ill.
- Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids, and eat nutritious food.

The Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) is an evolving situation that we are following closely and will continue to update you as information is shared with us. Please rest assured that we are monitoring student health concerns. We are in close communication with the local Board of Health, Massachusetts Department of Public Health/School Health Unit, as well as pediatric health care providers in the community. Our School Facilities Department is vigilantly sanitizing our educational spaces as we typically do during cold and flu season. We are following all recommended guidelines to ensure the safety of our students and staff.

We remain deeply committed to student and staff wellness and will continue to share new information with you, as necessary, about this evolving situation.

Sincerely,

Weymouth Public Schools

February 28, 2020 Communication

Dear Weymouth Families,

We understand that many families have questions regarding the recent outbreak of the Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) and how it may impact our local community. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is providing daily updates and recommendations. Please click on the following link to stay updated

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

While this is a public health concern, the CDC continues to report that the immediate risk to the general public remains low at this time. Yet, in today's connected world, with a large number of district families traveling during school vacation weeks, the potential for infectious disease is always of concern.

As with seasonal flu and strep infections, there are general precautions we can all take to remain as healthy as possible.

- Practice good hand hygiene. Wash your hands often and thoroughly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands. Use Alcohol-based hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available.
- When coughing and sneezing, cover your mouth and nose with a tissue. You can also cough or sneeze into your sleeve. Throw used tissues in the trash and immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

- Avoid sharing drinking glasses, cups, eating utensils, dishes, towels or other items. Wash these items thoroughly with soap and water after use.

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick whenever possible.

- Practice other good health habits: Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at home, work or school, especially when someone is ill. Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids, and eat nutritious food.

It is important to keep children home from school when they are ill, please communicate with your schools Health Office. If your child has any of the following symptoms, please keep them home from school:

temperature greater than 100.4, coughing, vomiting, diarrhea, any rash not yet diagnosed by a physician, red or pink itchy eye, and/or drainage from eye, and any contagious illness such as chicken pox, strep throat or flu.

For additional guidance on when to keep your student home, please refer to School Health Service guidance and reach out to your child's pediatrician. The Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) is an evolving situation that we are following closely and will continue to update you as information is shared with us. Please rest assured that we are monitoring student health concerns. We are in close communication with the local Board of Health, Massachusetts Department of Public Health/School Health Unit, as well as pediatric health care providers in the community. Our School Facilities Department is vigilantly sanitizing our educational spaces as we typically do during cold and flu season. We are following all recommended guidelines to ensure the safety of our students and staff. We remain deeply committed to student and staff wellness and will continue to share new information with you, as necessary, about this evolving situation.

Sincerely,

Weymouth Public Schools

April 16, 2020

Remote Learning Expectations for Students and Families 2020

WEYMOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOLS EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS AND FAMILIES FOR APPROPRIATE USE OF REMOTE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Weymouth Public Schools (WPS) is dedicated to providing engaging and effective remote learning opportunities for our students. As part of our remote learning opportunities, WPS is offering some opportunities via a virtual platform. Prior to engaging in these remote educational opportunities, including virtual opportunities, Weymouth seeks to clarify expectations around appropriate use of virtual technologies for educational opportunities.

WPS strictly prohibits screenshots, pictures, audio/video recording and distribution, in whole or in part, of any remote educational experience in order to protect student privacy, proactively prevent potential cyberbullying, prevent the distribution of copyrighted materials and comply with Massachusetts law. Please note that in Massachusetts, it is illegal to record another person through any medium without his or her knowledge.

While parents/guardians are permitted, if necessary, to observe or assist in remote learning opportunities in a non-disruptive manner, all participants, by engaging in a remote learning opportunity, agree not to share any confidential student information (e.g. disability status) inadvertently learned about other student participants with any third party.

Students and families are reminded that remote learning opportunities via Google Meets/Hangouts will be taking place in the homes of our educators and students. All participants are reminded to dress appropriately and engage in educational opportunities in a private, distraction-free location within their home to extent practicable.

Students and families are reminded that during remote learning opportunities, students are still held to the policies and procedures in our School Handbooks, including the Acceptable Use Policy.

Students and families will be notified in advance of any virtual lessons via email invitation or phone call (for families without email access). For grades PK-6, Google Hangout/Meets invitations will be sent to parent emails/phones. For grades 7-12 Google Hangout/Meets Invitations will be sent to students' Weymouth Public Schools emails. This document serves as your advance notification of virtual learning sessions.

Virtual remote learning sessions allow access via computer, smart phone, or via call in from any phone

Weymouth Public Schools strongly encourages student participation in remote educational opportunities. Based on the Massachusetts Department of Education and WPS, schools are open and students are required to attend via remote options. If a parent/guardian is not comfortable with virtual sessions, please reach out to your child's principal.

By participating in/allowing my child to participate in WPS' virtual learning activities, I understand and agree to abide by the above requirements. By participating in/allowing my child to participate in WPS' virtual learning activities, I further understand and agree that my/my child's image and voice will be transmitted over the internet, into the homes of other students and staff, and that WPS, while taking measures to secure transmission, cannot guarantee or warrant complete confidentiality of my/my child's voice or image while participating in online learning.

For questions regarding school policies and procedures, the Weymouth Public Schools directs parties to: the School Handbooks and Acceptable Use Policy which can be found on the [District Website](#).

*If there is a documented disability-based need for a student to record video/audio, consistent with the student's IEP or 504 plan, please contact the school principal and/or special education administrator to review this need. Under no circumstances should recording take place without the approval of the district.

April 16, 2020

School is in session April 21-24.

Frequently Asked Questions General Questions	
Q.	When is the last day of school?
A.	Weymouth will be in school through June 19, 2020. The last day of school for seniors is still being discussed.
Q.	Currently the schools are closed through May 4, 2020. Will this be extended? How will we be notified?
A.	The Weymouth Public Schools will continue to monitor this fluid situation and will make the best determinations in the best interest of the students and staff. Information will continue to be provided via our website, and on all major news outlets.
Q.	What will happen to April vacation (April 21-24)?
A.	April vacation has been cancelled. School will be held Tuesday-Friday. Monday of the week is a holiday.

Q.	Will there be access to any school buildings during this closure?
A.	At this time, all school buildings are closed to everyone for a deep cleaning. The Central Office at 111 Middle Street, will have very limited staffing during this time. We ask that you call or email if you have any questions. The office is closed to public access due to the Governor's request for social distancing.
Q.	How will the school community provide information on travel, health, and other important factors that will help us to determine our readiness to reopen?
A.	The district is currently working with Town Officials and the Department of Public Health to make decisions and keep the community informed regarding the readiness to reopen in the future. This information will be communicated via all means available, including: social media and our website.
Q.	Will lunch services be available for all students?
A.	Lunch pickup is available at Adams and Seach three times a week. At these pickup periods, you will be able to receive food for the entire week.
Return to FAQs Menu	

April 15, 2020

Message From Rob Wargo

Hello Weymouth Public Schools Staff and Families,

During this unprecedented time of remote learning during the COVID-19 pandemic, the district is working hard to meet the needs of all students and families while making decisions that consider equity for all. As such, the district has determined that a designation of credit or no credit will replace traditional grades from the time of school closure through the end of the school year. This change in grading is temporary for the 2019-2020 school year and will be discontinued when students and staff return to school in the 2020-21 school year.

- Credit will be given to all students who participate in learning activities during this time of remote learning.
- No Credit will only be considered if students did not attempt to meet learning targets and were unwilling to participate. Teachers/administrators will contact parents to verify that technology access challenges, social/emotional issues, etc. do not exist. Teachers will discuss the possibility of no credit with the building administrator (Deans, AP, Principal) who will then contact Assistant Superintendent Wargo before a determination of no credit can be assigned.

The information below provides specific information relevant to the Prek- Grade 4, Grades 5-8, and Grades 9-12 including post graduates, CTE students, and Weymouth Evening School. Based upon the Department of Education, when school is in session, attendance is an expected part of the school day for students, it is important that students check in with their homeroom teachers and this will be considered when looking at credit during this time.

Preschool and Primary Schools

Grades 1 - 4 - will be grading credit/no credit for term 3 only

Kindergarten - will be grading credit/no credit for February 1st to end of June term

PreK - will be grading credit/no credit for February 1st to end of second term (T2K)

We will follow the standards-based report card while we continue with the remote learning phase. If school buildings reopen during the 2019-2020 school year, credit/no credit will still apply.

This change is temporary and will be discontinued when students and staff return to school for the 2020-2021 school year.

Middle Schools - Grades 5 - 8

Superterm consists of Quarter 3 and Quarter 4 including the continuation of semester courses that started Jan. 27th, 2020 and ending on the last day of school. Students will remain in Quarter 3 exploratory/elective courses through the end of the school year. Grading will be credit - no credit for grade for each quarter.

Semester 2 began on Jan. 27th and will be ending on the last day of school. If school buildings reopen during the 2019-2020 school year, credit/no credit will still apply.

Any incomplete or makeup work for Semester 2 assigned prior to school closures will not impact determination of credit/no credit for Semester 2. Students will not be expected to make up work assigned prior to school closures.

Weymouth High School - Grades 9 - Post grad

Superterm consists of Quarter 3 and Quarter 4 including the continuation of semester courses that started Jan. 27th, 2020 and ending on the last day of school. Grading will be credit - no credit for grade for each quarter.

Final Exams have been canceled. Grading for this year will be based on semester one grades and mid-terms along with credit/no credit for the superterm consisting of quarters 3 and 4.

Semester 2 will be ending on the last day of school. If school buildings reopen during the 2019-2020 school year, credit/no credit will still apply.

Any incomplete or makeup work for the superterm, assigned prior to school closures will not impact determination of credit/no credit for the superterm. Students will not be expected to make up work assigned prior to school closures.

7. High School students, Grade Point Average(GPA) will not be affected as this superterm (quarter 3 and 4 together) will not be calculated into GPA. High school students and families may be concerned about how this plan impacts their college aspirations. Universities across the country have communicated that students will not be penalized for missing traditional standardized tests or for grading terms of credit/no credit transcripts for this semester. One of the most clear explanations of the assurances our students should expect comes from Harvard University – their complete letter can be found [here](#).
8. The High School will work with students who failed courses regarding possible credit recovery for Semester 1 (Terms 1 and 2). Priority will be given to seniors to utilize online learning platforms to acquire credit - more information will be forthcoming.
9. Weymouth Evening High School - semester 2 grading will be credit/no credit

Regards,

Rob Wargo

Asst. Superintendent Instructional Services and Support
Weymouth Public Schools

April 14, 2020

Message From Principal Perez

Good Evening,

It's hard to believe that we've been out of school for almost 4 weeks, navigating such turbulent times. I (and all of the Johnson ECC staff) miss seeing our students but hope that you and your families are well and healthy? As you are aware, WPS is now in full swing with the remote model of learning for all students.

What can our Johnson ECC families expect?

[April Calendar 2020 \(1\).pdf](#) [Nurse letter to JECC families.docx](#)

- Families should expect emails each Monday morning, from JECC staff, with the learning plan for the week. Remote learning plans are also posted on the WPS website. <https://remotelarning.weymouthps.org/prek-6th-grade>
- Daily Check in meetings at 9:00 a.m.
- Daily office hours so that our families can connect to teaching staff for support

I've visited many of our classes during the morning check in time and it's been wonderful to see so many of our students. The check in time is meant to be just that—a check in. If

you are unable to attend the check in or your child can only stay on for a few minutes at any time during those 20 minutes, please know that is ok. Office hours are set up to support our families to carry out learning plans at home, offer strategies for students, help navigate the technology/ website, or questions/concerns that you may have. Please reach out to your child's teacher to have a conversation during their scheduled times that they have shared with you.

We hope that you are able to take advantage of all that we have to offer but please know we understand if this presents a challenge at home during this time. Let us know so that we can help provide support to you.

Attached you will find:

- Letter from Nurse Hilton regarding office hours for any parent that wishes to contact her and important COVID 19 resource links.
- The Weymouth CFCE weekly calendar (Coordinated Family Community Engagement). All Weymouth families are welcome to attend any of our programs. You can register for weekly calendars and information via the website. <https://www.weymouthchildfamilycommunitycenter.com/>

Remember to take some time to care for yourself. A few minutes of “you time” can help to recharge you so that you can be at your best.

If you have any questions or concerns please reach out via email.

Stay Safe! Be Well!

Maura Perez, Principal

April 13, 2020

From Principal Costello at the Murphy School

Good morning, Murphy Families-

I hope you are doing well and that you are able to engage in your current learning format as we start our first full week of Remote Learning. Again, if you need any assistance getting connected, please don't hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher.

I'm pleased to let you know that our Term 2 report cards will be mailed home early this week. Once you have received these reports, please let your teacher or service provider know if you have any questions or concerns. Term 2 specialist summaries (Art, Music, Physical Education, Steam) are attached to this notice.

[Term 2 Art Summary.pdf](#) [Term 2 Music Summary.pdf](#) [Term 2 Phys Ed Summary.pdf](#) [Term 2 STEAM Summary.pdf](#)

April 7, 2020

Please see the attached letter from the Weymouth School Committee.

[letter to families - school committee 4 7 20 \(1\).pdf](#)

March 18, 2020

Helpful FAQ doc

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1OOrL5_qyCntoHZN1vmD3kDC5ioUPTkfnfcvYFA9rDI

Potential Support Source for Families:
These are unprecedented times, and it's inspiring to see communities rising to the challenge. However, not everyone

has the resources to "shelter in place" especially the millions of people in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Living paycheck to paycheck is hard when millions of businesses around the nation are closing down indefinitely, and hourly workers (including those dependent upon tips) are the hardest hit. In particular, families with kids whose primary meals happen at school are especially vulnerable when those schools shut down.

With this in mind, [Expensify.org](https://www.expensify.org) is going to temporarily redirect all of its charitable funds to [Expensify.org/hunger](https://www.expensify.org/hunger). With its ability to reimburse volunteers directly in

real-time, Expensify.org is uniquely positioned to help families in need immediately. Until today, this fund was focused on paying off kids' "lunch debts" , but with schools closed around the nation, that isn't the top priority. Instead, we're devoting everything to a new program: matching SNAP grocery purchases up to \$50 per family. It works like this:

Purchase food as normal with your SNAP card

Download Expensify on iOS or Android, for free

Join the [Expensify.org/hunger](https://expensify.org/hunger) policy

SmartScan the receipt, which will tell us how much you paid and show that it was

**paid for with an Electronic Benefits
Transfer (EBT) card**

Submit it to volunteer@expensify.org

**Set up your bank account to receive the
funds**

**So long as we have funds available, we
will reimburse up to \$50 per family (one
time), the very next day.**

**To be clear, we can't commit to
reimbursing every single person in need
— we have no idea how many people
will do this, and unfortunately, we don't
have unlimited funds. We also don't
know how long this crisis will last and
how far our brand new charity's
resources will stretch. But we're going
to do what we can with the funds
donated on behalf of Expensify
Cardholders via the Karma Points**

feature, as well as by the extremely generous donors who have signed up for our Corporate and Personal Karma programs.

This is a truly global crisis, and it is only beginning. We all need to work together to weather the storm, and on behalf of Expensify.org's many generous members, we're eager to help.

-david

President of Expensify.org

PS: While you may not personally be on SNAP, please forward this along to anyone based in the US (where the SNAP program operates) you know that

may need food assistance — or to any other groups or organizations who might be able to spread the word that help is available. Helping our local communities is what Expensify.org is all about!

March 17, 2020

Great resource to review:

https://fordhaminstitute.org/national/commentary/resources-learning-home-during-covid-19-school-closures?mc_cid=31a7a1a0e8&mc_eid=c5abfdb7b4

March 16, 2020

SAT update about testing.

[SAT Testing information](#)

March 16, 2020

[Town of Weymouth Website information updated.](#)

March 16, 2020

All School Offices are CLOSED to the public. We will post information when this status changes.

Update on Spring Sport Season

March 16, 2020

The MIAA Board of Directors voted today, March 16, 2020, to amend the start of the 2020 spring sports season in light of recent mandates from Governor Baker and recommendations from governing health agencies. The updated start date for the 2020 spring season is April 27, 2020.

Additionally, the MIAA Board of Directors voted to have completion of regular season and tournament games by June 20, 2020 with consideration of June 21, 2020 for weather and facility needs.

Details regarding the structure of the spring season will be addressed by the Tournament Management Committee (TMC). An update will be provided and reviewed by the Board by March 25, 2020.

These decisions are based on available information and are made in the best interest of our student-athletes, schools and communities. These decisions will be revisited and adjusted as needed.

Thank you for your patience while dealing with this very fluid situation. Be well.



March 16, 2020

Click Here to sign up for student lunches!

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSftj_O2Y4e6SH_J54Z2aJWsXQIhc7bxiUPdM-32aZYIXZtCWQ/viewform

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSftj_O2Y4e6SH_J54Z2aJWsXQIhc7bx_iUPdM-32aZYIXZtCWQ/viewform

March 13, 2020 Communication From Town Hall

With COVID-19 now recognized as a global pandemic, and after much communication with our department heads, the state Department of Public Health, the Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as well as South Shore Health Systems, Mayor Robert Hedlund has implemented a local Emergency Declaration that includes specific guidelines for town events, programming, and operations that will be in place through at least March 30, 2020. “The health and protection of every resident is our primary concern. While we are not aware of any confirmed or presumed COVID-19 cases in Weymouth as of today, we are planning under the assumption that will change given the increase in testing and the expected growth rate in confirmed and presumed cases, based on information provided to us by Medical Professionals including South Shore Health Systems, who are on the front lines of dealing with this pandemic,” said hedlund. The town has already taken and will continue to take the following steps to respond to COVID-19:

1. Created emergency response protocols to minimize exposure to our First Responders.
 2. Posted signage in municipal buildings to educate people about COVID facts, personal protection and asking them not to enter public buildings if they have flu like symptoms.
 3. Conducting enhanced sanitizing of surfaces with in buildings, vehicles and outside structures.
 4. Posted links on our website to the DPH and CDC coronavirus pages.
 5. Consulted with town and school departments about meeting cancelation and modifications.
 6. Consulted with town and school departments about travel restrictions and limitations.
 7. Participating in numerous conference calls and webinars to stay up with the latest information regarding COVID, from multiple state, federal and private sector sources.
- The Town of Weymouth is moving forward with stricter precautionary measures to help

slow the spread of COVID-19. "We understand these decisions will have an impact on many in our community. These decisions are based on current conditions and are being made with utmost precaution. The COVID-19 situation is extremely fluid, with some information changing by the hour, and our actions will be adjusted as the circumstances dictate," said Hedlund. The Emergency Declaration is an administrative tool that allows municipal government to access state and federal resources to better serve the community as COVID-19 evolves. It also allows us to more quickly and efficiently utilize and coordinate municipal services, equipment, supplies, and facilities. The following measures are in effect immediately through March 30, 2020: - All programming and events at the Weymouth Elder Services are suspended. Outreach, Transportation, SHINE, and AARP Tax assistance will continue to take place for now. In addition, Meals on Wheels by South Shore Elder Services will continue to use the McCulloch building for food preparation and delivery to area seniors. - All group programming at Weymouth Public Libraries is suspended. Each branch will remain open for regularly scheduled hours. - All group programming at the Weymouth Teen Center is suspended. Individual assistance through Youth and Family Services will still be available. - Weymouth Schools have announced that classes and all school activities will be cancelled. - The Town will not issue any special event permits and we will be in contact with Organizers of currently approved events to consider postponing or cancelling. This includes organized events permitted through the Recreation Department. - All non-essential government meetings will be cancelled. Using the Governor's order on making public meetings more available by phone or conference call as guidance, we are working to procure means to hold essential meetings remotely. We will also encourage limited (essential) agendas and encourage postponements when possible. We also ask residents to participate by these remote means when possible. We will be providing more detail soon on these alternative means of public participation to essential public meetings during this emergency. - We are asking residents and the public to utilize the Town website, phone calls, and email to conduct town-related business when possible. Contact info for town departments can be found at <https://www.weymouth.ma.us/departments>. The link to pay bills online is on the front page of the Town's main page - <https://www.weymouth.ma.us>. You may also call the Town's main line at 781-335-2000 or the Mayor's office at 781-340-5012. In addition to the emergency declaration, we are announcing recommendations and guidance pertaining to town employees and operations. The mayor encourages businesses and community organizations to implement similar measures, as appropriate: 1. No travel outside of the state for any work-related purposes. 2. Employees must stay home when sick with flu-like or respiratory symptoms and should contact their health care provider. 3. Maintain personal hygiene practices and begin social distancing. - Wash hands often with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds. - Avoid touching your face. - Clean

things that are frequently touched like doorknobs, countertops, and light switches, with disinfectant cleaning spray or wipes. - Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or the inside of your elbow. - Reconsider personal travel outside of the United States. - Reconsider personal attendance at large scale events. - Keep at least 6' between you and people around you when in public. 4. If you have recently traveled to any countries of high level transmission and have symptoms of respiratory illness and/or fever or if you have come in contact with someone who meets these criteria, you should contact your, health care provider, the Massachusetts State Epidemiology line at 617-983-6800, or the Weymouth Health Department at 781-340 5008. Please call first, do not go to any medical facility without calling and informing them of your medical condition. The health care facility will determine if you are eligible to be tested for COVID-19. 5. Using sick time will be waived for employees who have been identified as COVID-19 positive or who are quarantined based upon public health guidelines. (The Town will work with impacted employees on a case-by-case basis to assess sick time use and associated documentation). Many businesses and community organizations have already been proactive and have cancelled events with mass gatherings. The Mayor and Health Department are urging all other organizations to do the same. For additional guidance on mitigation strategies, please visit:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/MA_Community_Mitigation.pdf

At this time, while we are cancelling the activities mentioned, the Town is not closing public buildings such as the McCulloch Building, libraries, and Town Hall. School buildings will be closed. Weymouth public spaces, such as parks and fields, will remain open. We encourage users to adhere to CDC guidelines when using the public space. These decisions are all subject to change as this is a very fast moving situation. Stay informed. As this is a new virus, unknown to the medical community, information about the virus changes by the minute. The best sources of accurate up to date information are available on the Mass Department of Public Health (DPH) Website www.mass.gov/2019coronavirus and the Center for Disease Control (CDC) Website: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov For more information, please contact Chief of Staff Ted Langill, Office of the Mayor, 781-853-8821

March 13, 2020 Communication

To all of our Johnson Families:

Due to the closure of the Weymouth Public Schools beginning today through March 27th the following events have been cancelled:

- Saturday March 21st from 9:00-11:00 the Johnson ECC Open House
- Kindergarten Parent Orientation Meeting on March 25th from 6:30-7:30

At this time, we do not know if these events will be able to be rescheduled. As soon as we have more information we will let you know.

Thank you for your patience.

Maura Perez
Principal
Johnson Early Childhood Center

March 13, 2020 Communication

March 13, 2020

Dear WPS Community,

We have been working over the past week to address the ever evolving and unprecedented, coronavirus, COVID-19, and its impact on our community and appreciate your patience as we continue to manage this rapidly changing situation. The information contained in this correspondence is based on information gained by participation in conference calls with the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (MDESE) and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH). The plans outlined below are being implemented in collaboration with town departments, neighboring communities, and are fully supported by the Weymouth School Committee.

The Weymouth Public Schools Administrative team believes it is prudent to take preventative steps to reasonably address the health and safety of the district. The purpose of this communication is to share our next steps. As always, we want to provide the safest and healthiest environment possible for our students, staff and community.

Weymouth Public Schools will be closed starting at dismissal today through March 27th. We plan on reopening on Monday, March 30, 2020, but as you know this is a fluid situation and we will be in communication over the next two weeks.

Reasons supporting WPS school closures:

- Our maintenance and custodial staff will be doing a deep clean in all of our buildings.
- Though there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the District, the concern for the health and wellness of students, staff, and residents of Weymouth with compromised immune systems is paramount.
- There is a heightened regional concern of risk of cross-contamination from outside of our community.
- Social distancing will help decrease the likelihood of spreading any potential cases.
- 27 Districts including South Shore Superintendents have worked together to respond to this situation.

WPS Building Access: Beginning tomorrow, March 14, 2020, WPS students, staff and community members will not have access to schools.

Parent/Guardian Meetings: All parent/guardian meetings are cancelled for a minimum of two weeks. This includes building based and district wide parent/guardian meetings.

Out of District Students: Special education students who are placed at public or private special education day schools, will not be attending school during this time period. Residentially placed students will be contacted by the residential schools regarding any school or residence closures.

WPS- Travel Trips and Overnights: Effective immediately, all international and domestic travel including Camp Bournedale, museum overnights, etc. have been cancelled for the remainder of this school year. We understand that this will be disappointing to many, and understand that some of you may experience a financial loss. In this regard, we are working with a regional group of superintendents to advocate on your behalf.

Field Trips: Effective immediately, ALL field trips outside of the District will be cancelled through the end of the school year. Details regarding cancelled events will be forthcoming from your building Administrator. All High School internships will be handled on a case by case basis.

Before/After/Weekend School Activities: All activities outside of the school day are cancelled until further notice. No NEW activities outside of the school day will be scheduled from now until the end of the school year.

High School Athletics: The spring sports season will be delayed and is scheduled to begin on March 30, 2020. No practices of any kind, try-outs, scrimmages, or workouts at Weymouth High School are to take place before March 30, 2020.

Nutritional Needs: Beginning Tuesday, March 17, 2020 student meals will be available for pick up between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. at Seach Primary School and Abigail Adams Middle School. Each student meal will consist of a bagged lunch each day. This program will be available each week day, beginning Tuesday, during this two week closure.

Weymouth Evening High School: All Weymouth Evening High School classes and events will also be cancelled during this time.

We know this is a difficult and trying situation for the entire community. As parents/guardians, you may be wondering about the best way to talk to your child about the virus and the impact it is having on their world. A number of resources are available on the district website to help guide these conversations. Academic opportunities will be readily available on the website as well. Please know that during this two week closure, there are no mandatory or graded assignments.

We appreciate all of the emails we have received from concerned WPS families and community members. While we are unable to respond to each email individually, please know that we are fully dedicated to taking proactive steps to ensure that our schools continue to be safe and healthy environments for all children and staff.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Curtis-Whipple, Ed.D.
Superintendent

March 13, 2020 Communication

From Athletics Department

Hello Parents,

The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) has decided to postpone the start of Spring Athletics until Monday, March 30th, 2020. Please find below the information from the MIAA on this postponement.

"The MIAA Board of Directors held a conference call this afternoon to discuss the status of the MIAA spring sport season scheduled to commence on Monday, March 16, 2020. The past couple of weeks has certainly provided our member schools with challenges related to the outbreak of COVID-19. The beginning of spring sports is just one of the many decisions that needs to be addressed.

After much discussion, the BOD decision is to delay the start of the 2020 spring season to March 30, 2020. Respecting the fluidity of this situation, this decision will be revisited prior to March 30.

This decision is based on available information from numerous health agencies and is made in the best interest of our student-athletes, schools and communities."

The Weymouth High School Athletic Department will continue to keep all coaches, student athletes, and parents informed of any and all changes.

Thank you,

Mia Muzio

Interim Athletic Director - Weymouth High School

March 13, 2020 Communication

From Athletics Maria Weston Chapman Middle School

March 13, 2020

Hello,

We wanted to reach out to all the families of students who are scheduled to go to Canada in April with an update. At this time, we are postponing the trip.

Our district and our community recognizes that we are in a period of uncertainty in which conditions and the availability of information are evolving rapidly. Our district will adhere to the following framework when making decisions about events, field trips, and changes to our operations.

Where explicit and clearly defined recommendations from public health officials (DPH, CDC, Board of Health) or the Governor's office are available we will adhere to them. At this time, those clearly defined recommendations include no international student travel.

We are currently working with the travel company in trying to find a new date for the trip. Once we are able to finalize a new date, we will share that with everyone. If that date does not work for your student, we will then be able to discuss other options for you. At this time we are asking that everyone hold tight until we have a new date to offer. It is important to remember that things are fluid. We will communicate when we have more information.

Thank you for your patience,

Rebecca Paulhus

Interim Associate Principal

Maria Weston Chapman Middle School

March 12, 2020 Communication

From Assistant Superintendent Robert Wargo

Dear Parents and Guardians:

As of Thursday, March 12th, the Weymouth School District will be amending its Attendance Procedures in response to the COVID-19 outbreak.

The ASPEN produced attendance letters will not be going out to families/guardians for the foreseeable future. We will suspend sending letters as we do not want students to feel pressured to attend school when not healthy enough to do so. By not sending the letters we hope to alleviate any additional undue stress on your family/guardian that is contending with a sick child.

We will continue to track and record student attendance. School personnel will be in contact with families/guardians if we have concerns about lack of attendance. At the same time we will trust the judgment families/guardians are using in determining whether or not a student goes to school.

We are closely monitoring this situation and will make any necessary changes as we receive updates from local, state and federal health agencies.

Sincerely,

Robert Wargo, Assistant Superintendent

March 12, 2020 Communication

Hello, Please know that we understand that the given health concerns may have students as well as families very anxious. The following resources may be helpful to support conversations during this difficult time.

Jen Curtis-Whipple

How to Talk to Children about the Coronavirus:

<https://www.health.harvard.edu/blog/how-to-talk-to-children-about-the-coronavirus-2020-30719111>

Talking to Teen/Tweens about Coronavirus:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/02/well/family/coronavirus-teenagers-anxiety.html>

**Here is a pamphlet from the article:

https://www.hemot.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Pamphlet_HEMOT_english.pdf

A Comic created from NPR based on interviews with experts:

<https://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2020/02/28/809580453/just-for-kids-a-comic-exploring-the-new-coronavirus>

The NASP released a resource for parents:

[https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-climate-safety-and-crisis/health-crisis-resources/talking-to-children-about-covid-19-\(coronavirus\)-a-parent-resource](https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-climate-safety-and-crisis/health-crisis-resources/talking-to-children-about-covid-19-(coronavirus)-a-parent-resource)

[CDC resource page](#)

March 12, 2020 Communication

Festival Competition for WHS update

<https://metg.org/news/2020/metg-postponing-all-metg-events-through-april-6-2020>

March 11, 2020 Communication

Dear Weymouth Families, Staff, and Community Members:

In an effort to regularly update our community regarding the action steps the district is instituting to address COVID-19 we want to first and foremost reiterate the health precaution guidelines set forth by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and the Center for Disease Control. We know that understanding the facts is the best way to combat misinformation that may currently be swirling around the virus. Given the ever changing landscape associated with this virus we must be prepared to adjust our practices, but again in the meantime we are adhering to the above mentioned recommendations.

Early Dismissal, Cancellations and Closures

Before making any determinations about an early dismissal, school cancellations or impact on school events we will thoroughly consider all available information and will continue to consult with local and federal health agencies to assist in the decision making process regarding presumptive and confirmed COVID-19 cases. A presumed positive case means the patient tested positive in the state lab but will not be “confirmed” until the test is verified by the federal Center for Disease Control. We do NOT have any confirmed cases in Weymouth at this time.

Calling or cancelling school for weather related issues provides its own set of issues but making decisions about applicable responses surrounding COVID-19 are far more complicated. We are addressing issues on a case by case basis. Our decisions are always driven by the safety of our students, staff and community. The decisions again are made in collaboration with internal and external personnel with expertise in particular fields. Our goal is to maintain a level of normalcy that enables everyone to thrive.

We understand that any and all actions taken by the school district have an impact on family and caregivers’ lives. We recommend that you begin to investigate alternative supports if school is released early or cancelled. The district will continue to transport students to and from school as normal including in the event of any unforeseen circumstance. Students that are dependent on a caregiver for pick up, know that your child will be supervised until such time that the child is picked up. However, High School students will be allowed to be dismissed early and leave by whatever method you already have in place for dismissal.

Please continue to follow all regular protocols and healthy hygiene practices. Please also note that a special page on our website has been dedicated to update you with information as well as provide resources for you. Please see this information at <https://www.weymouthschools.org/> .

*Sincerely,
Dr. Jennifer Curtis-Whipple
Superintendent Weymouth Public Schools*

March 9, 2020 Communication

Dear Students, Staff, Parents/Guardians,

We are writing to update everyone on the evolving plans surrounding COVID-19, travel, and the Federal, State, and local guidance surrounding this concern.

All upcoming international travel planned through Weymouth Public Schools and/or planned by any staff employed by Weymouth Public Schools will be canceled. This decision was not made lightly, and was made with the guidance of the CDC, Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education in conjunction with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, the Governor as well as our local Health Department.

If you were scheduled to attend any of the following trips, please contact the appropriate representative:

High School Italy Trip	-	Kristen Kames
High School England Trip	-	Matthew Porro
Middle School Montreal Trip	-	Patricia Boucher

We will be working closely with the guidance of the CDC, Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education in conjunction with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, the Governor as well as our local Health Department to monitor domestic travel changes that may impact US trips that may be traveling in the weeks to come.

If you are planning any international travel, independent of school trips, we kindly ask that you notify your school health office before having your student return to school. We will consult with the Town Department of Health as to any precautionary steps you should take for your student post travel, and your student's re-entry into the school setting. We ask that our WPS staff follow this same process.

As is recommended, in an effort to prevent spreading of everyday disease, continue to follow these strategies:

- Practice good hand hygiene.
- Wash your hands often and thoroughly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Use Alcohol-based hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available.
- When coughing and sneezing, cover your mouth and nose with a tissue. You can also cough or sneeze into your sleeve.
- Throw used tissues in the trash and immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid sharing drinking glasses, cups, eating utensils, dishes, towels or other items. Wash these items thoroughly with soap and water after use.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick whenever possible.
- Practice other good health habits: Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at home, work or school, especially when someone is ill.
- Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids, and eat nutritious food.

The Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) is an evolving situation that we are following closely and will continue to update you as information is shared with us. Please rest assured that we are monitoring student health concerns. We are in close communication with the local Board of Health, Massachusetts Department of Public Health/School Health Unit, as well as pediatric health care providers in the community. Our School Facilities Department is vigilantly sanitizing our educational spaces as we typically do during cold and flu season. We are following all recommended guidelines to ensure the safety of our students and staff.

We remain deeply committed to student and staff wellness and will continue to share new information with you, as necessary, about this evolving situation.

Sincerely,

Weymouth Public Schools

February 28, 2020 Communication

Dear Weymouth Families,

We understand that many families have questions regarding the recent outbreak of the Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) and how it may impact our local community. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is providing daily updates and recommendations. Please click on the following link to stay updated

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

While this is a public health concern, the CDC continues to report that the immediate risk to the general public remains low at this time. Yet, in today's connected world, with a large number of district families traveling during school vacation weeks, the potential for infectious disease is always of concern.

As with seasonal flu and strep infections, there are general precautions we can all take to remain as healthy as possible.

- Practice good hand hygiene. Wash your hands often and thoroughly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands. Use Alcohol-based hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available.
- When coughing and sneezing, cover your mouth and nose with a tissue. You can also cough or sneeze into your sleeve. Throw used tissues in the trash and immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

- Avoid sharing drinking glasses, cups, eating utensils, dishes, towels or other items. Wash these items thoroughly with soap and water after use.

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick whenever possible.

- Practice other good health habits: Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at home, work or school, especially when someone is ill. Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids, and eat nutritious food.

It is important to keep children home from school when they are ill, please communicate with your schools Health Office. If your child has any of the following symptoms, please keep them home from school:

temperature greater than 100.4, coughing, vomiting, diarrhea, any rash not yet diagnosed by a physician, red or pink itchy eye, and/or drainage from eye, and any contagious illness such as chicken pox, strep throat or flu.

For additional guidance on when to keep your student home, please refer to School Health Service guidance and reach out to your child's pediatrician. The Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) is an evolving situation that we are following closely and will continue to update you as information is shared with us. Please rest assured that we are monitoring student health concerns. We are in close communication with the local Board of Health, Massachusetts Department of Public Health/School Health Unit, as well as pediatric health care providers in the community. Our School Facilities Department is vigilantly sanitizing our educational spaces as we typically do during cold and flu season. We are following all recommended guidelines to ensure the safety of our students and staff. We remain deeply committed to student and staff wellness and will continue to share new information with you, as necessary, about this evolving situation.

Sincerely,

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