



Ben Lummis
Interim Superintendent

The Public Schools of Brookline
Town Hall
333 Washington Street, 5th Floor
Brookline, Massachusetts 02445
617.730.2401

March 12, 2020

Dear PSB Parents, Guardians and Staff,

I am writing to inform you that **all public schools in Brookline will be closed tomorrow, Friday, March 13, through at least Friday, March 27, 2020.** This decision was finalized at a meeting of the Brookline School Committee tonight.

We realize that a decision to close schools has a significant impact with far-reaching ramifications for our community, and we understand the disappointment, frustration and uncertainty that it may create. However, our first priority is the health and safety of our students and staff. We also realize that children and families rely on their school as part of a broader social safety net. Many students receive important nutrition, health and social service support from our schools. We are aware of the impact of interrupting these services and are actively working with the Town to provide alternatives.

The Brookline Department of Public Health urgently reminds all parents and children that it is imperative to follow protocols for personal health, and to lower the risk of transmission of illness to others. Please remember the importance of social and personal distancing, avoiding large gatherings, and not congregating in confined areas.

We are also working to develop guidelines on how to continue learning and connecting with our students during this closure. The Town and School Department will also continue developing comprehensive plans to support the community and limit the spread of infection. We will share all of this information with you in the coming days.

I am committed to working closely with our union partners to ensure the safety and health of all of our staff.

More information about COVID-19 can be found on our website [here](#), as well as on the Brookline Department of Public Health website [here](#).

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we respond to this rapidly evolving public health situation.

Sincerely,

Ben Lummis
Interim Superintendent