



Ben Lummis
Interim Superintendent

The Public Schools of Brookline
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January 28, 2020

Dear Parents, Guardians and Staff,

I am writing to share with you the health advisory issued yesterday by Brookline's Public Health Department (please see attached) concerning the coronavirus. I would also like to take this opportunity to let you know the steps we are taking in our schools to ensure the safety of our students and staff.

We are carefully monitoring information from the US Centers for Disease Control (CDC), as well as advisories from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH). As is typical for this time of year, we are seeing influenza-like symptoms in our schools. Nurses are closely monitoring symptoms and reminding parents to keep students home when ill, and to practice good hand-washing and cough etiquette. We also would like to remind you that it is not too late to get the flu vaccine if you have not already done so.

The CDC is conducting screening for illness among passengers at 20 US airports and providing educational materials for any passengers arriving from China. The CDC is closely monitoring this rapidly evolving situation and providing regular updates to public health authorities across the nation. More information about the CDC's response to the coronavirus can be found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/summary.html#cdc-response>

Please rest assured that we are monitoring this situation very closely and staying informed of the latest information from public health authorities. We are following all recommended guidelines to ensure the safety of our students and staff. We will continue to share new information with you, as necessary, about this rapidly evolving situation.

Sincerely,

Ben Lummis
Interim Superintendent