March 11, 2020

Dear Families:

We continue to receive updates and guidance regarding the novel coronavirus COVID-19 from the Vermont Agency of Education and the Department of Health and are closely monitoring any impact, and planning for potential impacts, on our schools. Our number one priority is the health and safety of our students, staff, and communities.

We continue to be vigilant in our approach to disinfection and cleaning in schools and supporting students by encouraging frequent hand washing. The following is a list of actions you can do to help reduce the spread of COVID-19:

- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains a minimum of 60% alcohol. Anything less is not effective in killing the virus.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with your sleeve or a tissue. Throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

The administrative team will continue to monitor the evolving landscape created by COVID-19, both locally and nationally. As we look ahead to how concerns may impact the rest of the school year, we are in regular communication with state officials. Yesterday, the Secretary of Education released a guidance document for school closures, which can be found at this link:

You can also gain information from the Vermont Department of Health webpage at this link:

A reminder that if your child is sick please keep them home and contact your school’s nurse or an administrator. If you have additional questions you can inquire with your school’s nurse or administrator, or dial 2-1-1 for Vermont’s information system (https://vermont211.org/).

Thank you for your patience, support, and diligence while we navigate this ever-changing situation.

Sincerely,

Donald S. Van Nostrand
Interim Superintendent