

FALL RIVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

"The Scholarship City"

417 Rock Street, Fall River, MA 02720

Matthew H. Malone, Ph.D., Superintendent

MEMORANDUM

To: Faculty, Staff and Parents

From: Matthew H. Malone, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools
Tess Curran, MPH, Director of Health and Human Services, City of Fall River

Date: March 10, 2020

Re: Coronavirus Update #4

As of today, we do not have any confirmed or presumptive cases of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) in the Fall River Public Schools. We have one employee experiencing flu-like symptoms who will remain at home until 24-hours fever free. The other employee who was sent home yesterday as a precautionary measure, has been cleared to return to work as said employee has not experienced any flu-like symptoms. Yesterday's early dismissal of the Administration Building was done out of an abundance of caution. Faculty, staff, and parents should be aware that risk of COVID-19 in Massachusetts remains low at this time.

We continue to clean and sanitize our buildings on a daily basis. These practices will now be enhanced thanks to the School Committee approval last night to purchase 15 more deep cleaning machines. We will continue to be proactive by advising students, families, and staff to:

- Wash your hands regularly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol based hand sanitizer
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash
- Avoid touching your eyes, mouth and nose with your hands,
- Stay home from work, school, and errands when you are sick. Avoid close contact with people who are sick. You should be symptom free for at least 24 hours, without the use of fever or cough reducing medication, before returning to school/work.

If students are experiencing flu or respiratory illness symptoms, please follow the same guidelines. Superintendent Malone has authorized principals to use their discretion in waving the attendance policy in terms of failing due to absences acquired because of staying home for flu or respiratory symptoms; as long as all course work is made up. We will continue to monitor and update any new information as we work in unison to support the City of Fall River.

MHM/ps