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Carver Public Schools

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March 12, 2020

Dear Carver Community,

The Town of Carver was notified today of a potential concern related to COVID-19, the illness associated with the novel coronavirus. Twenty-one (21) students in the Carver community in grades 3,4,5 and 7 attended the Celtics home game last Friday, March 6, 2020, in Boston versus the Utah Jazz. The Carver students took part in the pregame and half-time events on the court. Since the game, one of the Utah Jazz players has tested positive for COVID-19. After consulting with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health the recommendation is for anyone who was within "close contact" of the infected player to be put in self-quarantine for fourteen (14) days from the date of potential impact ("close contact" is defined below).

Upon report, Carver's school department and town administration met with the Board of Health and immediately contacted the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. After discussions with town officials, the Carver Board of Health and the Massachusetts Board of Health, the Carver Public Schools has decided that school will be closed tomorrow, Friday, March 13, 2020. All events are canceled from Thursday, March 12, 2020 at 4:00 PM through Sunday, March 15, 2020 (including the YMCA program at CES).

Out of an abundance of caution, we wanted to share our actions moving forward with this concern.

1. Over the next three days, buildings and buses will be sanitized and deeply cleaned.
2. In accordance with the latest recommendation from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, the school administration will be contacting each family of the twenty-one students involved to determine if the student needs to self-quarantine until **Friday, March 20, 2020** (14 days from the date of the Celtics game).
3. The Massachusetts Department of Public Health stressed that of the twenty-one (21) students, **only those who may have had close contact** with the infected player would

need to be self-quarantined (Carver students who were not at the game, do not need to be self-quarantined).

Tomorrow morning, the Massachusetts Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education, along with the Department of Public Health, will hold a conference call with all superintendents with updated recommendations on COVID-response procedures. Our district will continue to comply with any updated guidance involving school closures. I will provide the community with an update on next steps by the end of the weekend. I understand that additional questions may arise. Please feel free to call 508-866-6160 with questions.

Information on COVID-19

What is a Close Contact?

According to DPH, a "close contact" is a person that has been within six feet of a confirmed case for longer than 15 minutes at one time, or in direct contact with infectious secretions, while the case was likely to be infectious. A person is likely to be infectious from when they begin exhibiting symptoms up until at least 24 hours after they are symptom-free.

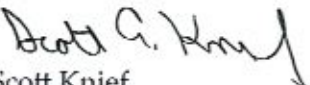
What if I was near someone who was exposed or diagnosed?

If an individual was in the same location as a person with COVID-19 before they had symptoms, even if they were in close contact, health officials stress that they were not exposed to the virus because the individual was not contagious at that time. In addition, health officials advise that walking through a building or room where there is or was a positive case of COVID-19 does not mean you are a close contact.

What if I feel sick?

As always, if anyone displays symptoms of COVID-19, including a fever, cough or shortness of breath, they should not come to work or school and they are advised to contact their primary care physician.

For more information, the Town of Carver webpage with links to COVID-19 or call the health department at 508-866-3420. You may also visit the DPH's website by [clicking here](#) and the CDC's website by [clicking here](#).


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