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## **Carver Public Schools**

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March 13, 2020

We have been working over the past few weeks to deal with the novel coronavirus, COVID-19, and its potential impact on the Carver community. The situation and information is rapidly changing. With the goal of protecting the safety of the Carver community, our students, and our staff, I have collaborated with area school superintendents to make a decision as to school operations. The Superintendents' group, including Carver, has made a regional decision to close school for the next two weeks, Monday, March 16, 2020, through Friday, March 27, 2020. This closure includes all school-sponsored events and student activities. This decision was based on area communities working together to mitigate any spread of the virus within the South Shore. Along with closing school we still encourage the following preventive measures:

- Practice social distancing maintaining at least 6 feet between you and others.
- Avoid large social gatherings.
- Cover coughs/sneezes with tissues, or cough/sneeze into the inner elbow.
- Practice good handwashing with soap and water as often as possible.


I also wanted to update the community on the 21 Carver students who attended the Celtics vs. Utah Jazz game last Friday. We have spoken with all of the families and coaches and determined that none of the players had any "close contact" with the infected NBA players. According to the Department of Public Health, "close contact" is defined as a person that has been within six feet of a confirmed case for longer than 15 minutes at one time, or direct contact with infectious secretions, while the person 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. In coordination with the Carver Board of Health and DPH it has been determined that none of these students need to self-quarantine.

The Department of Education guidance for this year states that school districts only need to make up a total of 5 school days, no matter the number of days missed. As a result, our last day of school will now be Thursday, June 25, 2020. We also want families to be aware that we will not be scheduling school days during the already planned April break scheduled for Monday, April 20, 2020, through Friday, April 24, 2020.

Our hope is that if we all work together, we can reduce the spread of this virus, protect our most vulnerable residents, and resume normal activities as soon as possible. A status update regarding school closures will be distributed to families on Friday, March 20, 2020.

We will keep you informed of any additional changes as the evolving public health situation continues. Thank you for your continued support and patience.

Sincerely,

  
Scott E. Knief

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