



HINGHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS

220 Central Street • Hingham, Massachusetts 02043

781-741-1500 VOICE • 781-749-7457 FAX

www.hinghamschools.com

March 15, 2020

Dear Hingham Public Schools Community:

Governor Baker has just announced the statewide closing of all public and private schools in the Commonwealth to mitigate the spread of COVID 19. The schools in the Commonwealth will be closed through April 7, 2020.

As your principal announced earlier this afternoon, the district's leadership team will be meeting tomorrow morning at 11:00 AM to plan for the continuation of student engagement during the closure. We have been actively exploring online learning options and continue to discuss how best to support you and our students during this challenging time. Following tomorrow's meeting we will communicate the district's plan. We understand people are anxious for answers, and we ask for your patience as our leadership team works to explore all options and identify the most educationally inclusive and equitable path forward. To that end, the district will be sending a questionnaire to ascertain the availability of technology within your home. Please be sure to complete this survey when it arrives tomorrow, as this information will be used to inform our plan for the weeks ahead.

Please remember this statewide closure is designed to mitigate the spread of COVID 19. We want to remind everyone in our community to practice social distancing, stay at least 6 feet away from others, and avoid gatherings of more than 25 people. Social gatherings and playdates are also discouraged. And, as you have been hearing from multiple sources, handwashing for at least 20 seconds with soap and warm water is another great defense to keep you and your family healthy.

We will continue to update you during this unprecedented time. Thank you, in advance, for your patience as we work to prepare informative and responsive communications to keep the community apprised of this evolving situation.

Sincerely,

Paul Austin, Ph.D.

Superintendent of Schools