March 10, 2020

Dear Parents,

As indicated in yesterday’s letter, we cancelled all afterschool activities (excluding Aftercare) for the week so that we can conduct systematic cleaning procedures. Each building has been divided into three sections that are being deep-cleaned between tonight, tomorrow and Thursday nights. On Friday, we will revisit all of the “touch spots” that have the highest traffic areas.

While I do not want to be redundant, I implore you to discuss handwashing with your child. As educators who watch the children walk out of the bathrooms without washing their hands, we need your help in reinforcing best practices for minimizing the spread of germs. While we could not have anticipated dealing with COVID-19, as a district, we proactively installed hand sanitizers in every classroom and other locations throughout each building this past Fall. Please encourage your children to utilize these stations as well.

We have created a “Continuity of Learning Plan” that will be released to parents in the near future in the event that we need to employ a remote learning plan. In order for us to successfully implement this plan, teachers need advanced training in some remote learning methods. Therefore, this Friday, March 13th, we will have an early dismissal so that teachers can receive professional development in the afternoon.

The COVID-19 issue will continue to evolve. We cannot anticipate if or when we will need to close school. We cannot anticipate if future events will be cancelled. At this time, our buildings will be open for use beginning this Saturday following our deep cleaning protocol. School will remain open unless the situation necessitates otherwise.

I thank you in advance for your patience and understanding as we maneuver through uncharted territory.

Sincerely,

Carolyn M. Kossack
Superintendent of Schools