



# Littleton Public Schools

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## KELLY R. CLENCHY, Ed.D., SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

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March 5, 2020

Dear Littleton Families,

The Littleton School District, in conjunction with public safety officials, is continuing to closely follow the spread of the respiratory disease COVID-19, or the “coronavirus,” learning yesterday of new recommendations from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and shared in a press conference from Governor Baker.

On March 4, the CDC made important changes to their recommendations for people who have traveled to countries with Level 2 and 3 advisories. According to the health department, people who have returned from mainland China are being monitored by public health authorities and must stay home for 14 days after their travel. **People who have returned from other locations with travel notices for COVID-19, namely Italy, South Korea and Iran, are also advised to stay home for 14 days after returning to the United States and practice social distancing.**

Given these updated recommendations, the Littleton School District is requiring staff members who traveled to Italy over the February vacation to discontinue their attendance at school and all school-related events until they have been back in the United States and symptom-free for 14 days.

Based on their travel dates, these staff members will have reached the 14 day mark on Saturday, March 7 and will be allowed to return to work on Monday, March 9 as long as they are symptom free.

**At this time, there are no confirmed or suspected cases in Littleton. The staff members who have returned from Italy are not believed to be showing any symptoms of the disease.**

The district does not believe there is any cause for concern for students or staff. According to the [Massachusetts Department of Public Health \(DPH\)](#), the risk to residents of contracting the virus remains low.

Parents and guardians are reminded that, in an effort to prevent the spread of infectious diseases such as the flu, respiratory viruses and gastrointestinal illnesses, students need to be free from fever, vomiting or diarrhea for 24 hours before returning to school if they have been sick, and are advised to stay home and not go to school if they are presenting any of those symptoms.

In an effort to prevent the spread of flu, colds and other respiratory illnesses, residents are recommended to take the following measures from DPH:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, if unable to wash, use alcohol-based hand sanitizers
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth
- Cover your coughs or sneezes with a tissue or sleeve (not with your hands)
- Stay away from people who are sick and stay home when you are sick

The CDC ([www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)) recognizes that prevention efforts offer the strongest protection from all cold and flu illnesses, including the coronavirus.

We will continue to monitor updates and recommended preventative practices that are provided by the CDC and MA Board of Health; and will implement any additional recommendations that are suggested. We will continue to share information with you as it becomes available. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to your school nurse.

Sincerely,



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Dr. Kelly R. Clenchy  
Superintendent of Schools



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Mrs. Kathleen McCarthy  
Nurse Leader