



School Administrative Unit 21

2 Alumni Drive
Hampton, NH
03842
603-926-8992
sau21.org

March 1, 2020

Dear SAU 21 Families and Employees:

In an effort to provide consistent and accurate information related to the recent outbreak of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), as well as ensure the safety and well being of SAU 21 students and families, I wanted to provide an update related to the SAU and state-wide response.

William H. Lupini, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

David T. Hobbs, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent for
Curriculum, Instruction and
Assessment

**Caroline P. Arakelian,
Ph.D.**
Executive Director of
Student Services

**Matthew C. Ferreira,
M.S.Ed.**
Business Administrator

According to the CDC website, most people in the United States will have little immediate risk of exposure to this virus, and this virus is NOT currently spreading widely in the United States. However, this is a rapidly changing situation, and our risk assessment is evolving as well. Therefore, out of an abundance of caution, we will implement the following steps related to student attendance in the coming week(s):

For students/staff who participated in the Winnacunnet Italy trip over February vacation:

- In a manner consistent with the advice received through the New Hampshire Department of Education, SAU 21 has decided that students and faculty who participated in the Italy trip will be excluded from school and school-related activities for fourteen (14) days, until Monday, March 16, 2020. This exclusion includes all sports and sports activities, as well as all extracurricular activities.
- Household members of those students participating on the trip, including siblings, are not excluded from school. Rather, they should adhere to the guidelines outlined by the CDC, as follows:
 - Self-monitor for any symptoms, including feeling sick with fever or cough or having difficulty breathing. If symptoms occur, the individual should self-quarantine (avoid contact with others) and immediately seek medical advice through a doctor's office or emergency room, making certain to tell them about their recent travel and symptoms.

For students who traveled abroad as part of a non-school related trip over February break:

- Those who have traveled to known Level 2 or Level 3 transmission areas (including China, Iran, South Korea, Italy, Japan) should self-exclude from school and school-related activities for fourteen (14) days, until Monday, March 16, 2020. If you and your family meet these criteria, please contact your Principal immediately to make them aware.
- Those who have traveled to known Level 1 transmission areas (including Hong Kong) should adhere to the guidelines outlined by the CDC, as noted above.

Any students who are excluded from attending school during this time will not be penalized for absences; moreover, schools will provide access to curriculum as needed.

Serving the communities of:

Hampton Falls

North Hampton

Seabrook

South Hampton

Winnacunnet High School

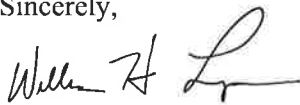
As noted in all recent communications the CDC recommends the following general precautions we can all take to remain as healthy as possible, including:

- Practice good hand hygiene. Wash your hands often and thoroughly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands. Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available.
- When coughing and sneezing, cover your mouth and nose with a tissue. You can also cough or sneeze into your sleeve. Throw used tissues in the trash and immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid sharing drinking glasses, cups, eating utensils, dishes, towels, or other items. Wash these items thoroughly with soap and water after use. Avoid close contact with people who are sick whenever possible.
- Practice other good health habits - clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at home, work, or school, especially if someone is ill; get plenty of sleep; be physically active; manage your stress; drink plenty of fluids; and eat nutritious food. Our school facilities departments are vigilantly sanitizing our educational spaces as is typical during cold and flu season.
- Keep children home from school when they are ill. If your student has any of the following symptoms, please keep them home from school: temperature greater than 100, coughing, vomiting, diarrhea, any rash not yet diagnosed by a physician, red or pink itchy eye and/or drainage from eye, and any contagious illness such as chicken pox, strep throat or flu.

If you have questions about any of this information, please contact the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) - Division of Public Health Services at 603.271.4496. Additional materials can be found at the CDC website (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>) or the DHHS website (<https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/cdcs/2019-ncov.htm>).

Thank you for your flexibility as this situation unfolds. We remain committed to ensuring student and staff safety and wellness in all SAU 21 schools.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William H. Lupini', written in a cursive style.

William H. Lupini, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools