March 14, 2020

Dear Monadnock Community,

As educational leaders, our number one priority is keeping our children safe. We are confronted with an unprecedented situation, and it is imperative that we work together to ensure the health and safety of the Monadnock community.

After careful review of CDC guidelines, many phone consultations with local health officials and other area superintendents, as well as a special meeting with the Monadnock Regional School Board this morning, we have made the decision to **temporarily suspend in-school instruction and transition to remote learning for all Monadnock students.**

There will be no school beginning on **Monday, March 16th**, and all after-school activities are suspended until further notice. In general, all Monadnock buildings will be closed to the public except by appointment. Any events scheduled by outside groups that utilize District buildings will be canceled. Staff members will be working on Monday and Tuesday to further develop our remote learning plans.

On **Wednesday, March 18th**, we will begin remote learning with the goal of returning to school on **Monday, April 6th**. This is with the understanding that conditions may change and the timeframe may need to be extended.

We will use this time to follow closely the health developments around the state and prepare for additional steps as necessary. At the same time, we will conduct thorough floor-to-ceiling disinfection and other enhanced cleaning routines in all of our buildings.

Please note the following items:

- Students in grades K-6 were sent home Friday with a letter and learning activities in support of remote learning. By Tuesday, you will receive additional communication from your student’s building principal with further details about remote learning for your child(ren).
- By Tuesday, parents of students in grades 7-12 will receive additional communication from your student’s building principal with further details about remote learning for your child(ren).
- If you are in need of any materials (books, student belongings, etc.) from your child’s school, please contact the office and make an appointment to come to the school to gather those items.
- Our technology team will be available to inform you about how to solve technical issues that may arise during the shift to remote learning. You can call 603-903-6789 or email helpdesk@mrsd.org.
• By Tuesday, if you have a student who receives special education services, our Special Education Director will communicate with you about how those services will be delivered.
• We are finalizing a plan for students who may be in need of breakfast and/or lunch. As soon as this plan is finalized and approved by the state, we will provide access details.
• We ask that you inform the school if your child develops an illness and what their specific symptoms are. Please contact (telephone call or email) the office at your child’s school.

We have created a webpage to house all information related to COVID-19 and remote learning. You can visit that webpage at www.mrsd.org/COVID19. This page will be continuously updated, so check back often.

For the most up to date information regarding COVID-19 (Coronavirus), you can visit the CDC website at https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html, the World Health Organization website at https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019, or the NH DHHS website at https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/cdcs/2019-ncov.htm. You can also reach out to the NH DHHS directly with any questions you may have at 603-271-9700.

Please be assured that we have taken this difficult step in consideration of all available facts and in an effort to protect the health and well-being of all members of the Monadnock community. Thank you in advance for your flexibility and understanding.

Sincerely,

Lisa A. Witte
Superintendent of Schools