



Franklin Public Schools

Office of the Superintendent
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March 13, 2020

Dear Franklin Families,

This letter serves as a follow up to the [Town of Franklin Coronavirus Update Letter](#) shared earlier today. Franklin Public Schools, beginning today, Friday, March 13, 2020, are closed for two weeks (through March 27, 2020), planning to resume operations March 30th. We will have to make up 5 days for the year. Our last day of school is now planned for June 24, 2020.

The purpose of this closure is preventative and is to provide social distancing within the school community, as this practice has been promoted as a way to curb the spread of the virus. It is not a direct reaction to a specific situation or individual; the Board of Health reports there are no confirmed cases impacting us at this time.

School events are also cancelled and may be postponed. This includes the Leap into Kindergarten (3/17), Incoming 9th Grade Special Education Transition Night (3/18), and Parent/Guardian Homework Information Evening (3/18). MCAS testing at FHS for sophomores will be postponed (3/24 and 3/25). The School Committee meeting/budget hearing is scheduled to continue (3/24).

We know that school plays an important role in the daily life of children. The routine of school, in particular, is a comfort during times of stress. We are keenly aware of this and have been actively planning to support both families and students and to maintain some structure and connection. This includes:

- Developmentally appropriate resources for the continuity of learning and “keeping the learning alive”
- Continuation of breakfast and lunch for Franklin children
- Counseling supports
- Rescheduled dates of selected activities and events (e.g. SATs, MCAS, parent/guardian information evenings)

We will address the details of these and other matters in future communications.

We anticipate that your child may need items left at school such as instruments, books, Chromebooks, and personal items. Your child’s school will soon communicate specific days and times.

This is an anxiety-producing time for all. The following resources may assist you in answering questions and facilitating conversations with your children:

[How to Talk to Children about the Coronavirus](#)

[Talking to Kids about Covid-19](#)

[Talking to Teen/Tweens about Coronavirus](#)

[Coronavirus: Latest Updates and Tips](#)

We know there are many remaining questions. We aim to address these in the coming days and we appreciate your patience as we navigate this uncharted territory together as a community.

Sincerely,
Franklin Public Schools