



ATHOL-ROYALSTON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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The Athol-Royalston Regional School District is committed to providing challenging educational experiences that inspire students to acquire the knowledge and skills to become responsible citizens in the global community.

3/5/20

To Parents/Guardians:

As the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation evolves, we want to keep parents/guardians updated with information on how the Athol-Royalston Regional School District is addressing the current situation. We have recently met with local public health authorities and are following all recommended guidelines, making sure that proper prevention and preparedness measures are in place to ensure the safety and security of all of our students.

Precautions are being prepared in all schools. Maintenance staff have been directed to follow specific cleaning procedures throughout the day in all schools, prioritizing “high touch” areas. Hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms and outside of each main office. “Stop the Spread of Germs” flyers from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, have been posted outside of each classroom, to encourage proper hand washing and help ensure prevention.

School nurses have been given recommended guidance from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health in assessment and prevention of COVID-19. They will be monitoring and communicating any trends noted in respiratory illnesses in all schools. They will consult with local and state health departments as needed, regarding disease surveillance efforts and response.

We want to stress prevention to ensure the chance of infection stays low. Please take the following precautions and encourage your children to do so as well:

- Wash your hands often and thoroughly with soap and water for 20 seconds. If you cannot wash your hands, use alcohol-based sanitizer with at least 60 -95% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Stay home from school or work when ill.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick whenever possible.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at home, work, or school.
- When coughing and sneezing, cover your mouth and nose with a tissue. You can also cough into your sleeve.

We appreciate your efforts to protect the health and safety of our schools and we will continue to work closely with local and state health departments as this situation develops.