



ATHOL-ROYALSTON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

1062 Pleasant Street • P.O. Box 968
Athol, MA 01331
Tel: 978-249-2400 • Fax: 978-249-2402
Website: www.arrsd.org

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.

March 15, 2020

Darcy Fernandes
Superintendent of Schools

Sheryl Femino
Administrative Assistant

Kathryn Clark
Director of Pupil Services

David King
AHS Interim Principal

Molly Superchi
Pre-K -8 Curriculum
Director

Christie Fontaine
Special Education Coordinator

Thomas Telicki
Principal
Athol-Royalston
Middle School

Shannon Cleveland
Principal
Athol Community
Elementary School

Cynthia Kennedy
Interim Principal
Royalston Community School
Title I Director

Stephen Femino
Facilities and Transportation

Lynn Bassett
Business Manager

Edward Skutnik
Director of Technology

Dear Parents/ Guardians,

Our school district will be closed from March 16, 2020, to March 20, 2020. We will reevaluate how much longer we may need to close by Thursday and will notify everyone via our one-call system, posting on the web, and news outlets.

The decision to close was a difficult one to make as we considered the impact on our students and families. We also understand having large gatherings can cause additional spread of the Coronavirus, therefore we decided the closure was necessary.

The district has received multiple different messages as to what is the best course of action. Closing schools for a week allows the district time to sort through the information so we can make more informed decisions.

District officials will be meeting Monday to review how we will continue to feed students in the district and how we can support students with some learning at home. We realize that not all our families can access materials online, so we will be coming up with some alternative options.

Please take care of yourself as we move forward. Remember the best way to prevent this virus from spreading according to the CDC is to:

- 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.

As we move forward, please know we are in uncertain times. The district is doing its very best to be supportive of students and families. The district is being called upon to make unprecedented decisions. We are ready to face the challenge.

Sincerely,

Darcy Fernandes
Superintendent
Athol-Royalston Regional School District