Dear TPS Community,

As referenced in our previous communications, the situation regarding COVID-19 is continuously evolving. Our District has and will continue to follow all recommended measures from our local state and federal health agencies to ensure students, staff, and families remain healthy.

We have added links on our District homepage to provide everyone with access to health-related communications and other helpful information concerning the coronavirus (COVID-19) situation.

This morning the District Administrative team, inclusive of the Nurse Manager, met to discuss field trips, local and out-of-district events, facility usage, communication protocols, and planning for possible school closures. That being said, I want to emphasize that the risk of contracting a COVID-19 infection remains low. The prevention measures such as thorough and frequent handwashing, covering coughs and sneezes and staying home if you are sick, are still the best preventive measures. We will continue to review and adapt our practices following the guidance provided by our local Board of Health, Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH), and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

As of today, we have not been informed of any cases within our community. Should that change, we plan to address each case individually and, if there is important information to share, we will do so on our website, email, and/or District social media platforms.

We are reviewing upcoming scheduled field trips and events and will determine whether to postpone or cancel based upon the guidance received from local and state health officials. Please know that the most up-to-date guidance we receive will always drive our decision-making process. As decisions are made, and new information collected, we will provide updated communication to you so that you are continually informed of any adjustments or cancellations to future events.

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) also continues to monitor COVID-19 closely, and its possible impact on schools. They are updating Districts regularly with guidance and advice, and this too, is guiding our decisions. District administrators, the Nurse Manager, City, and health officials are and will remain in constant communication to prepare for possible scenarios, including short or long term school closures and other cancellations that may be needed. For now, if there are specific cancellations or postponements of events or field trips, a communication from your child’s building principal will be sent home to all parents, caregivers, and guardians.

If you have any specific questions, please do not hesitate to contact your child’s school. Additionally, updated information and the latest guidance from MDPH regarding COVID-19 can be found at www.mass.gov/2019coronavirus, while daily updates and recommendations from the CDC can be found at https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html.

Respectfully,

John J. Cabral
Superintendent of Schools