

LYNN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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*Patrick A. Tutwiler, PhD
Superintendent of Schools*

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Dear Lynn Families,

The Lynn School Department and the City of Lynn Public Health Division are in communication and working with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health concerning the Coronavirus. Daily updates are provided to us from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and we want to reassure you that the immediate risk to the general public remains low.

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) released a guidance calling for individuals who have recently returned from countries with widespread, ongoing transmission of the virus to self-quarantine for 14 days from the day he/she left the identified country. Those countries are: China, Italy, Iran, and South Korea. If you departed one of the identified countries on or after February 22, 2020, I ask that you alert your student's principal as soon as possible. Then, per the CDC guidance, you must self-quarantine for a total of 14 days from the date of departure of the identified country.

As always, simple precautions will help prevent the spread of the flu and other respiratory illnesses:

- Cover your mouth when you cough or sneeze, using a tissue or the inside of your elbow
- Wash your hands for 20 seconds with soap and warm water frequently and use hand sanitizer
- If you have a fever or feel sick, stay home and call your healthcare provider
- If your child has a fever, he or she should not return to school until he or she has been fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medications.
- Get the flu vaccine – it is not too late! Find more information on the flu and where to get a flu vaccine here: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/what-should-i-know-about-flu>

The Coronavirus is an evolving situation that we are monitoring closely. Please be assured that we are monitoring student health concerns. Further, the Inspectional Services Department is disinfecting in schools as they normally would during the cold and flu season and disinfecting “high touch” areas (door knobs, push bars on doors, handrails, etc.) as part of their daily cleaning protocol. We are following all recommended guidelines to ensure the safety of our students and staff.

We remain deeply committed to student and staff wellness and will continue to share new information with you as necessary. Please visit the Center for Disease Control website (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus>) for more information. We will also provide any updates at www.lynnschools.org and on our Facebook page.

Respectfully,

Patrick Tutwiler, PhD
Superintendent of Schools