

Town Corrected Version

February 28, 2020

Dear Parents and Staff,

In response to the latest CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) media briefing on the Coronavirus and the potential impact at the community level, we want to assure you that we are staying updated on the status in Connecticut and within our own community. First and foremost, we are following the guidance of our local health department and information being conveyed from the State of Connecticut. Communication is ongoing, and the situation is being monitored closely at the local level.

The COVID-19 (Coronavirus) is a specific flu in a large family of viruses that causes illness ranging from the common cold to more severe diseases such as Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS-CoV) and Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS-CoV), which we experienced in 2003 and 2012.

While there have been no confirmed cases in Connecticut, the State remains prepared, including supporting local communities and schools in the event of an outbreak. You can visit the following links for more information <https://www.trumbull-ct.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=1062>, <https://www.trumbull-ct.gov/197/Disease-Virus-Information>, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/index.html>.

What Can You Do Now?

As the CDC suggests, the best advice is to wash your hands frequently to lower the risk of spreading germs. You should not send students to school if they show any symptoms of illness and seek medical attention if flu-like symptoms exist. Be sure to reach out to your child's school nurse if you have any concerns about your child's health.

What is the Trumbull School District Doing?

Our District is in constant communication with the Trumbull Health Department and will follow protocols should a case be confirmed in the community. In the meantime, custodians are being asked to clean schools thoroughly, including the use of disinfectants to wipe down tables, desktops, door handles, and other touch points where germs and infection are often found.

What If the Coronavirus is Confirmed in the Public School?

In the event a case of Coronavirus is confirmed in a school, a decision will be made to take the appropriate steps necessary to mitigate the situation. If the situation at the community level should become a threat, prompting school closures of any kind, parents will be notified with a specific plan in place. While this is not likely at this point, town and schools are prepared to take all necessary actions to protect public health.

What If I Have Travel Plans?

CDC provides recommendations on postponing or canceling travel. These are called travel notices and are based on assessment of the potential health risks involved with traveling to a certain area. A list of destinations with travel notices is available at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>. As of right now, the only country with travel restrictions is China. Travelers returning from China are screened and monitored for the virus by federal, state and local health officials. No restrictions are being placed on travelers from Italy and other countries at this time.

The First Selectman, Vicki A. Tesoro, and I are in regular contact and will continue to share information so that community members, parents, staff, and Town employees are fully aware of the situation and have a consistent response. If you should have any further questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to our office at 203-452-4301.

Sincerely,

Ralph M. Iassogna

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Trumbull Superintendent