



School Administrative Unit 21

2 Alumni Drive
Hampton, NH 03842
603-926-8992
sau21.org

William H. Lupini, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

David T. Hobbs, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent for
Curriculum, Instruction and
Assessment

Caroline P. Arakelian, Ph.D.
Executive Director of Student
Services

Matthew C. Ferreira, M.S.Ed.
Business Administrator

Serving the communities of:
Hampton Falls
North Hampton
Seabrook
South Hampton
Winnacunnet High School

February 28, 2020

Dear SAU 21 Families:

Many of you may have questions regarding the recent outbreak of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19 or 2019-nCoV) and how it may impact our local communities and schools. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is providing daily updates and recommendations at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>). In addition, the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) also has a number of resources and updates available at <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/cdcs/2019-ncov.htm>.

While this is a public health concern, the CDC continues to report that the immediate risk to the general public remains low at this time. However, in today's connected world, with a significant number of families and individuals traveling during school vacation weeks, the potential for infectious disease is always of concern. As with the seasonal flu and strep infections, there are general precautions we can all take to remain as healthy as possible, including:

- Practice good hand hygiene. Wash your hands often and thoroughly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands. Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer when soap and water are not available.
- When coughing and sneezing, cover your mouth and nose with a tissue. You can also cough or sneeze into your sleeve. Throw used tissues in the trash and immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid sharing drinking glasses, cups, eating utensils, dishes, towels, or other items. Wash these items thoroughly with soap and water after use.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick whenever possible.
- Practice other good health habits – clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at home, work, or school, especially if someone is ill; get plenty of sleep; be physically active; manage your stress; drink plenty of fluids; and eat nutritious food.

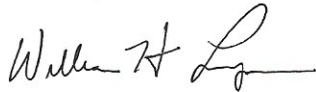
It is important to keep children home from school when they are ill. If your student has any of the following symptoms, please keep them home from school: temperature greater than 100.4, coughing, vomiting, diarrhea, any rash not yet diagnosed by a physician, red or pink itchy eye and/or drainage from eye, and any contagious illness such as chicken pox, strep throat or flu. For additional guidance on when to keep your student home, please contact your school nurse.

We are currently reviewing all student trips that have been scheduled for the remainder of this school year, paying careful attention to State Department and CDC guidelines and directives.

The Novel Coronavirus is a quickly evolving situation that we are following very closely. We are in close communication with the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (Division of Public Health Services) and the New Hampshire Department of Education. Our school facilities departments are vigilantly sanitizing our educational spaces as is typical during cold and flu season. We will follow all recommended guidelines to ensure the safety of our students and staff.

We are committed to student and staff wellness and will continue to share new information with you regarding this current situation as it becomes available.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William H. Lupini". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

William H. Lupini, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools