

Martha's Vineyard Public Schools

Excellence and Equity For All Children

Equal Opportunity Employer

MATTHEW T. D'ANDREA, LP.D.
SUPERINTENDENT

RICHARD M. SMITH, ED.D.
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

MARK A. FRIEDMAN
INTERIM SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

HOPE T. MACLEOD, M.ED., BCBA
DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES
(SECONDARY)

NANCY W. DUGAN, M.ED., BCBA
DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES
(ELEMENTARY)

RUDA STONE
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE
SUPERINTENDENT

March 13, 2020

Dear Parents,

After consultation with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Department of Public Health, our local Boards of Health, our district physician and our school administration, I have decided that it would be in the best interest of the Island to cancel school and all extra-curricular activities for the next two weeks. This decision has been made after much debate and contemplation. The education of our students is extremely important, but the health of our students and families must take precedence during this time of uncertainty. I feel strongly that we should take proactive steps to stem the spread of COVID-19 prior to a confirmed case on the Island. Before the end of the two-week period, we will assess the situation and share the plan for moving forward.

The administrative team will be working over the weekend to continue planning for the possibility of on-line instruction, and we will keep families posted on our educational plan going forward. Additionally, we will share updated information from the Department of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as it becomes available. At this time, there is no schoolwork requirement for students at home. Finally, if necessary, we will develop a plan for providing food for families.

In the event that your family accesses MV Community Services for mental health services, they will continue to operate and are available to meet with your student. There will not be any group meetings. Please be in touch with MV Community Services to ensure continuity of care at (508) 693-7900 ext 225 for scheduling. Emergency Services will be available through the Island Intervention Center/Urgent Care Program (508) 693-7900 ext 241 (For emergency needs only).

During this time of uncertainty, it is crucial that the Island community band together and support one another. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Matthew D'Andrea, LP.D.