03/12/2020

Dear Weston Families:

The spread of COVID-19 has moved to a community based transmission. Please see the most recent update from the Westport/Weston Health District here.

We write today with a critically important notice at the urging of Connecticut public health, emergency and educational officials, who want students and families across the state reminded of basic requirements for all of us in dealing with COVID-19. The Governor declared a State of Emergency for dealing with COVID-19; we need to underscore basic actions we all must take to support each other.

Information and response to COVID-19 is emerging and evolving across our state, nation, and internationally. Information from Weston Public Schools on the school response is continually updated here. Information for the Town of Weston can be found here.

This notice is an important reminder to our community regarding:

- PREVENTION
- STOPPING THE SPREAD OF COVID-19
- COMMUNICATION
- TRAVEL and SOCIAL DISTANCING

It is important that we continue to work together and employ these best practices in caring for ourselves and others.

PREVENTION

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds; use hand sanitizer with at leaset 60% alcohol
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, mouth
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Stay home if you are sick
- If you are sick, wear a facemask; if you are not sick, wear a facemask if caring for others who are sick
- Clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces daily

More information on each of these recommendations can be found here.

STOPPING THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

The Center for Disease Control recommends that if you are sick with COVID-19, or suspect you are infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, to follow the steps below to help prevent the disease from spreading to people in your home and community:

Stay home except to get medical care

- Separate yourself from other people and animals in your home
- Call ahead before visiting a doctor
- Wear a facemask if possible
- Cover coughs and sneezes
- Avoid sharing personal items
- Clean hands often
- Clean all high-touch surfaces daily
- Monitor symptoms in consultation with your medical provider

More information on each of these recommendations can be found here.

MEDICAL DIRECTION

If you are experiencing any of the following symptoms, it is important that you contact your primary care provider. Furthermore, if you are experiencing the symptoms listed you should consider yourself as infected with COVID-19.

- Fever of 100.4 or greater
- A dry cough
- Shortness of breath

TALKING WITH CHILDREN

We recognize that talking with children can be challenging and is important at this time. The National Association of School Psychologists has published <u>this article</u> to help guide our conversations with children.

TRAVEL and SOCIAL DISTANCING

We ask that all community members and families carefully consider travel plans. Previous guidance from the school district on <u>Travel Restrictions for WPS-Sponsored Programs</u> as well as <u>guidance on social distancing and large gatherings</u> can be helpful when making travel decisions. We request that all families consider these documents as well as consult the <u>CDC travel</u> guidance when making decisions about traveling.

IMPORTANT REMINDER REGARDING FACILITIES (Changes will be Communicated)

- The Weston Public School District is closed until further notice
- The Weston Senior Center is closed until further notice
- The Weston Public Library is closed until further notice
- All remaining town offices and facilities will be closed to the general public through Sunday 03/15/2020
- *Parks and Recreation activities will be closed through 03/15/2020