



# Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School

10 New Bond Street Worcester, MA 01606

Phone: (508) 854-8400 Fax: (508) 854-8484

[www.akfcs.org](http://www.akfcs.org)

Abby Kelley Plans for Extended School Closure

March 13, 2020

Abby Kelley families:

What we are experiencing as a nation and globally, right now is unprecedented. We continue to review developments and share information with you in as timely a manner as possible. This morning, a statewide call between school Superintendents and the state's Commissioners of Education and Public Health took place to discuss COVID-19 (Coronavirus) and how it impacts K - 12 education.

Following that call I, along with the Administrative Council at Abby Kelley, believe it is in the best interest of the Abby Kelley community and the greater Worcester community, to **close our schools** beginning **Monday, March 16th through Friday, March 27th** to help stem the spread of COVID-19 in Massachusetts. Families should expect for students to be away from school for **at least two weeks**.

## **Distance Learning to commence**

Thursday, March 12th I shared a [District message](#) with families regarding Abby Kelley's plans for schools to be closed for an extended period of time. I commend our Abby Kelley staff who, in addition to carrying out this week's lessons, have been planning for a potential school closure. Their efforts have prepared our students with the necessary tools and take-home materials for the coming weeks.

If you have academic questions, please contact your student's teacher directly. If you have a question which is a building based, please contact the respective School Principal; Elementary School; [aemma@akfcs.org](mailto:aemma@akfcs.org), Middle School; [apuliafico@akfcs.org](mailto:apuliafico@akfcs.org), High School; [Ckursonis@akfcs.org](mailto:Ckursonis@akfcs.org). If you have a district level question, please contact me, [bhaas@akfcs.org](mailto:bhaas@akfcs.org). We will continue to communicate logistical details for student learning at home, as needed.

## **Assisting with Food Insecurity**

I am working with our Nutritional Services Director to explore options to provide a meal(s) to our students, as needed, while we work through this closure. These conversations are ongoing; I will communicate back to you any plans we are able to implement.

## **Athletics Update**

Per the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA); the State Cheerleading Finals scheduled for Sunday, March 15th, which Abby Kelley was competing in, have been cancelled.

As of today, Friday, March 13th, spring sports tryouts will begin on **Monday, March 30, 2020**. Due to the fluidity of the situation, this decision will be revisited prior to March 30.

*Abby Kelley Foster Charter Public School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, gender identity, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, or homelessness and all students have equal access to the general education program and the full range of any occupational/vocational education programs offered by the district.*



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It is critical that we follow the public health recommendations for social distancing and frequent hand washing, which are being implemented to protect the most vulnerable individuals in our state. We appreciate your patience and support during these challenging times. We hope to have our students, faculty and staff back to their classrooms as soon as possible. Please be safe.

Sincerely,

Brian Haas

Executive Director

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