March 10, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians:

On Friday, March 6th, I sent a letter home to inform our parent community that we have begun to plan for a possible school closure due to the current COVID 19 outbreak. According to the New Jersey Department of Health’s current guidance, the most important thing that we can do is to plan and prepare. We have been advised that “schools may be asked to close preemptively or reactively, therefore schools should be making plans for what to do if there are recommendations for closing schools or cancelling events.” We will continue to assess all new information that we receive from the NJDOH, the New Jersey Department of Education, and the Monmouth County Executive County Superintendent. Our plans are flexible and evolving.

Yesterday, I met with our Mayor, members of the Shrewsbury Borough Council, our OEM Coordinator, Chief of Police and officers, and other first responders and stakeholders to discuss our plans and measures to be prepared for COVID 19. We had the opportunity to speak with a Health Officer from the Monmouth County Regional Health Commission #1 who gave our local officials more information about the nature of COVID 19 spread and measures that we can take to keep all of our residents safe. While there are several simple but important measures that we can all take to prevent infection, the MCRHC#1 strongly recommends that any individuals who are exhibiting symptoms contact their primary health care physician regarding testing measures and for treatment recommendations. It is important that you do not send your child to school if they are ill.

For the most up-to-date information about COVID 19, please visit the [CDC](https://www.cdc.gov) and the [NJDOH](https://www.nj.gov) regularly.

As a reminder, please use these simple but best practices to minimize the spread of germs in your house and between your family members:

- Washing hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth
- Cover your coughs and sneezes
• Students and employees who have symptoms of acute respiratory illness are advised to stay home and not come to work/school

Our Maintenance and Custodial team is busy cleaning our building throughout the school day and performing systematic, deep cleans every evening to pay particular attention to highly used and highly trafficked areas of the school. Our staff is using approved disinfectants, a 10% diluted bleach mixture, as well as the disinfectant surface wipes to clean our entire school each day. The district has also purchased electrostatic disinfecting equipment and UV sterilization equipment to use throughout the school as soon as they arrive. Also, our Faculty and Staff has implemented increased handwashing and disinfection procedures throughout the day to cut down on the spread of germs. We are wholly focused on preventing and mitigating COVID 19 at SBS.

Please contact me at any time should you have questions or concerns.

Very sincerely,

Brent A. MacConnell
Superintendent