

Miller Place Union Free School District

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March 9, 2020

Re: MP Update Regarding Coronavirus

Dear Parents, Guardians and Staff,

Miller Place Schools are open.

I am aware there are conversations, concerns and rumors within our School District, as well as our neighboring school districts, regarding coronavirus. We are aware Shoreham-Wading River School District closed this morning due to inaccurate information provided by an employee. They are reopening all schools tomorrow.

Suffolk County School Superintendents participated in a conference call this afternoon with representatives from Suffolk County Government, including the Department of Health, to discuss the current status of coronavirus. The discussion included those exposed via direct international travel, direct community exposure, and incidental exposure via proximity.

Suffolk County Department of Health recognizes this is an evolving situation with multiple layers of community concern. I am at liberty to share with you the following information:

Shoreham-Wading River closed school today because they were unable to immediately determine the validity of the information supplied to them at 6:55am.

There is only one confirmed case of coronavirus in Suffolk County. He is a 40-year-old male who is currently hospitalized, has no children in any school district, his immediate direct contact individuals have been notified and they are being monitored by the Suffolk County Department of Health.

School districts were directed to report to the Suffolk County Department of Health all known student, staff and community members who have traveled to level two and three countries (currently China, South Korea, Japan, Iran, and Italy) within the last 14 days. This excludes all individuals who traveled during the February 2020 recess period, as the 14-day quarantine period has already expired.

School districts were directed to monitor all upcoming international travel for students, staff and community members as the list for level two and three countries affected by coronavirus may be revisited or expanded in the future.

Suffolk County representatives are collaborating with Nassau County representatives to monitor potential overlap of individual and community exposure to coronavirus.

The Miller Place School District is exploring many options and alternatives, regarding large group gatherings, instructional practices, field trips to public venues and/or other school districts, competitions, contests, travel, school visitors/presenters and use of facilities by outside organizations. For your information, we had already enhanced our cleaning and disinfecting procedures and will continue this practice for the near future.

Our District will continue to follow guidance and direction from Suffolk County Department of Health, various New York State agencies and the Center for Disease Control (CDC).

We will continue to keep our school community informed as confirmed information becomes available and we recognize there may be unintended consequences of some of our decisions.

Please visit our webpage, which contains important information regarding the international issues surrounding coronavirus: <https://www.millerplace.k12.ny.us/Domain/950>

Thank you.

Dr. Marianne F. Cartisano
Superintendent of Schools