

# SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT THIRTY-NINE

Amherst, Mont Vernon, and Souhegan Cooperative School Districts

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*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

## COVID-19/Corona Virus Update

AMHERST AND MONT VERNON – Friday, March 6, 2020

Good afternoon!

Here is the Weekly Video Update for SAU #39: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gc2uEJcLirl>

You can also read everything our schools have to share in their latest newsletters (linked below):

Clark-Wilkins:

<https://drive.google.com/a/sau39.org/file/d/11psGS1Uta3iVlR1VlbyjA8Tnep8pye-T/view?usp=sharing>

AMS:

[https://drive.google.com/a/sau39.org/file/d/1o3Q\\_1-A-Z9QFFGoCNM7plfvu16tfJBz4/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/a/sau39.org/file/d/1o3Q_1-A-Z9QFFGoCNM7plfvu16tfJBz4/view?usp=sharing)

MVVS:

[https://drive.google.com/a/sau39.org/file/d/1qMLKIJ1mwGPzJmYYaDI6\\_YDgrlHsFCcm/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/a/sau39.org/file/d/1qMLKIJ1mwGPzJmYYaDI6_YDgrlHsFCcm/view?usp=sharing)

SHS:

[https://drive.google.com/a/sau39.org/file/d/14e2ZP3\\_ucjxbql3xsV2KLa6WO8QwCN4k/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/a/sau39.org/file/d/14e2ZP3_ucjxbql3xsV2KLa6WO8QwCN4k/view?usp=sharing)

For your reassurance, here is a recap of our COVID-19 response:

- Our task force, which includes our nurses, principals, and some SAU staff, have started to meet twice regularly to work on our planning efforts and response to this issue. We will continue to meet as long as there are issues that need addressing;
- Our custodians are receiving additional training and support about proper cleaning and disinfecting protocols;
- We are going to attempt to hire additional part-time custodial help to assist our efforts for the rest of the school year;
- Clark-Wilkins has already made some changes to the lunch/recess process to ensure better access to hand-washing for students which was communicated to parents earlier this week. Kudos to them for the quick adjustment to their process!
- Our nurses are providing daily logging of absences related to flu-like symptoms so that we have data to alert us to a sharp increase in absenteeism. We already report flu-like symptoms to the State on a regular basis;
- Our late start on Tuesday will be associated with planning to address what we would need to do to develop a long-term contingency plan in the low likelihood that an extended school closure should become a reality in the future;

- Along those lines, we may consider altering our school year schedule to allow for additional time for training of our teachers and staff in the case of an extended school closure in the very low likelihood that should become a reality;
- We have several trips upcoming both to other countries and other parts of our country. We are going to strictly follow CDC guidelines for travel. This means if there is a travel advisory for a location, we will not go on the trip. If there is not any advisory, the trips will continue as planned;
- We are going to support individual families and staff members who have unique medical needs during this time. If you or any of your students has an issue and needs support, please contact your building's nurse or principal and we will provide that support;
- For those students, siblings, and staff members who have been self-quarantined due to travel over February vacation, I am able to allow siblings and family members to come back to work/school on Monday. The student or staff member who traveled is still subject to the 14-day self-quarantine, but those who live with them AS LONG AS THE PERSON QUARANTINED HAS NO SYMPTOMS, is considered low risk. So, if you live with someone who is quarantined and they have no symptoms, you can return to work or school on Monday;
- Also, we had one high school student who traveled to Italy prior a CDC travel advisory being in place. That student self-quarantined this week, but is able to return to school next week as there was no travel advisory that restricts them from returning to school; and
- Other students and staff who were in places with a travel advisory must still remain on the 14-day quarantine until 3/16.

I will continue to provide updates about this issue as they are needed! As always, reach out with questions at [asteel@sprise.com](mailto:asteel@sprise.com).

I hope everyone has a wonderful weekend,

Adam Steel

Superintendent of Schools