



Regional School Unit 50
Southern Aroostook Community School
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March 13, 2020

Dear RSU 50 Parents, Guardians, Staff Members, and Students:

As we continue to learn more about the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and to receive guidance on best practices to slow its spread, we are monitoring closely recommended actions and precautions from the State of Maine and the Maine Department of Education. We are also making careful determinations regarding upcoming school-sponsored travel, conventions, and any other event that requires students to gather in large groups. Yesterday, Maine Governor Mills issued a restriction on gatherings of 250 or more people; therefore, several of these events have already been cancelled for our students. In addition, many staff members have cancelled plans to attend professional development conferences and events.

We realize that families and staff members will still choose to continue to follow through with travel plans as we near spring break. RSU 50 cannot make determinations on personal travel plans, nor will we advise you to avoid or proceed with travel. Please note that the Governor has advised that all non-essential travel out of state or out of the country should be avoided. The best way to avoid infection is to minimize the exposure to infected people.

If you choose to travel out of the State of Maine, the RSU 50 school physician recommends a fourteen(14) day self-quarantine before returning to school. If you display any symptoms associated with the virus please consult with your primary care physician before returning to school. Staff members have a responsibility to keep their students safe, and parents have a responsibility not to send their sick children to school. We will be spending a great deal of time and effort on disinfecting our buildings to minimize the risk for infection.

RSU 50 will continue to keep you updated on any new information we learn specific to COVID-19. As new information comes to us, we will share it with you. Please check back regularly on our school website, or go to <https://www.rsu50.org/> for the most up to date releases of new information.

Respectfully,

Jon Porter

Superintendent of Schools

RSU 50/Southern Aroostook Community School