Dear Parents/Guardians,

Since my communication last Friday, I participated with superintendents, town leaders, Governor Lamont, Department of Health Commissioner Renee Coleman-Mitchell, and Commissioner of Education Miguel Cardona in a conference call discussing implications of the coronavirus (COVID-19). During this call, superintendents were recommended to cancel school events that have more than 100 people in an effort to limit the spread of COVID-19. I recognize that this is unsettling news for families and students. We will look for ways to accommodate these events with postponements or livestreaming where possible. You can expect to hear directly from principals, in the coming days, regarding specific events at schools.

In addition, this morning the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference (CIAC) which governs high school sports in Connecticut, has made the decision to cancel all remaining CIAC winter tournament games. We have notified those teams that were still in CIAC tournament play. Needless to say, this decision was deeply disappointing news for our student athletes, coaches and parents.

As you are aware, this is a dynamic situation that we are following closely. As I mentioned in my last communication, tomorrow morning I will be attending a meeting with the Farmington Valley Health District Director and staff. In the afternoon I am bringing district administration together to provide an update on the actions the district is taking and initiate discussion on our actions going forward.

I will send a more detailed communication later this week, regarding the following:

- Information available on school closure decisions and how they are made
- Potential for distance learning
- Information regarding field trips
- Continued cleaning efforts within the district.

I know that this news may bring anxiety and concern. Please know that we are following public health best practices and working at all levels to safeguard the health of our school community.

Matt Curtis
Superintendent of Schools