

Dear Parents, Guardians, and School Program staff:

Please be advised of the following:

Methuen Public Schools has made the determination to close temporarily from 03/16/2020 to 03/27/2020 in response to concerns about the current COVID-19 outbreak. Based on this decision, St. Ann's is issuing the following guidance to all school/educational staff: St. Ann's School will be closed **to students only** during the timeframe specified above; IEP meetings and case conferences may still take place as previously scheduled, with an option for teleconferencing. Please call to confirm if a specific meeting is still taking place.

Teaching & Learning

- TEACHING/GRADING - Students and families are being asked to keep students engaged in their own learning; no new assignments will be given, and teachers will not be teaching or grading.
- REPORT CARDS - As of now, the grading window for all schools will be shifted back by two weeks.
- MCAS- DESE has not changed the MCAS calendar. They are working on getting the laws changed to get a change to the calendar.

Calendar

- As of today, our plan is for school to run through to our 185th day. The last day is Wednesday, June 17th. This is based on the [Commissioner of Education guidance from March 10, 2020](#).

School Events- at this time, Open House, scheduled for March 25, will be cancelled.

As part of our risk mitigation strategy, we are looking to reduce visitors to our programs. Effective March 17, 2020, we are going to ask that any non-essential meetings, visits, or conferences be held via teleconference (or through other electronic communication methods). Effective immediately, there should be no recreational activities planned that include large groups of people, confined spaces, or areas that are hard to disinfect (inflatables, ball pits, etc.). Recreational activities that take place in open areas allowing for 6 ft/person of space and/or outdoors are encouraged.

St. Ann's will continue to monitor the current COVID-19 pandemic, and you will be updated with any changes or additional measures that may need to be taken. As always, we appreciate your dedication, cooperation, and willingness to support our continued efforts to provide the best possible care and support to our students and their families and our staff.

Links to the CDC resources can be found:

https://higherlogicdownload.s3.amazonaws.com/NASN/3870c72d-fff9-4ed7-833f215de278d256/UploadedImages/PDFs/02292020_NASP_NASN_COVID-19_parent_handout.pdf
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/community-mitigation-strategy.pdf>