



*28 Lord Road, Marlborough, MA 01752 Telephone: 508-460-0491 Fax: 508-481-0379*

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Date March 13, 2020

Dear AVC community,

The COVID-19 pandemic in Massachusetts is an ever-evolving situation. During this time we continue close coordination with local and state health officials as well as our member districts, our highest priority remains keeping our students and staff safe.

To minimize the risk of exposure, and with a high degree of caution around COVID-19, we are writing to share that AVC will be closed through March 27th. Our intent is to resume all services on March 30th, but we will continue to assess the situation and we will reevaluate at that time. We realize the speed of this decision impacts families, but weighing that impact against the need to keep our children safe, we decided to maximize safety.

We want to assure everyone that they will continue to be paid through the state of emergency without any impact on accumulated sick time. The Commissioner has waived the 180-day rule for public schools starting Monday. Therefore, the next two weeks will not be made up in June. School districts will be responsible to provide programming through the scheduled 185th day which means the last day for students would be June 18th and June 19th for staff.

It will be exceedingly important over the next two weeks that our community members make conscious behavior choices to slow transmission rates.

[Please see the following Guidance from the Center for Disease Control for decreasing potential exposures in homes, workplaces and schools.](#)

[Talking to Children about COVID-19](#)

Additionally, see the AVC [website](#) for continually updated information from the Center for Disease Control and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, as well as information regarding quarantine, and how to talk to students about Coronavirus.

We will continue to monitor and assess this situation very closely and will share information with you as quickly as possible. We want to thank you for your understanding and support as we all deal with the global health crisis at the local level during this uniquely challenging time.

Please reach out if you have questions.

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Handwritten signature of Shannon VanderSwaagh in black ink.

Shannon VanderSwaagh, OSA Principal

Handwritten signature of Cathy Cummins in black ink.

Cathy Cummins, Executive Director

Handwritten signature of Kate Maher in black ink.

Kate Maher, AVC Nurse Manager

Handwritten signature of Karen Laskey in black ink.

Karen Laskey, Director of REACH/Evolution

Handwritten signature of Nancy Ahrabi-Nejad in black ink.

Nancy Ahrabi-Nejad, Director of Consultation Services

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