



March 13, 2020

Dear Excel Families,

All Excel school sites will be closed from Monday, March 16th through Friday, March 27th. We hope to open again on March 30th, assuming we receive clearance from public health officials. Students who were at school today were provided materials to support learning at home. Students who were not at school today will be mailed materials. **We will update all families shortly about our plans to continue serving meals from our schools during this closure, which we plan to begin on Monday, March 16.**

We are making this decision with an abundance of caution - there are no known or presumptive cases of COVID-19 within the Excel community. And, it is critical that we contribute to broader efforts to reduce the spread of coronavirus within our community - and hopefully minimize the impact it will have. We recognize that closing a school has repercussions for the economic well-being of families, as well as children's learning, safety and nutritional needs and take this decision very seriously.

We believe the time has come for our community to make the decision to close as the number of confirmed or presumed positive cases in Massachusetts increased to more than 100 and more people in the Boston area are being asked to self-quarantine. Yesterday and today many district and charter schools also announced that they will close schools. Many of our families have reported that their employers have provided direction to work from home at this time. Others have reported that their employers are canceling in-person meetings and businesses, and other government agencies have closed on-site operations.

We appreciate your continued partnership while we navigate this situation. Our community's safety and health is our number one priority. We will continue to send you health updates, update our website site at <http://www.excelacademy.org/coronavirusupdates/>, and share the latest via social media.

As always, medical questions and concerns should be brought to a school nurse, your own doctor, or the Massachusetts Department of Public Health at 617.983.6800.

Thanks as always,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Owen".

Owen Stearns
CEO
Excel Academy Charter Schools