



ABINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

"The mission of the Abington Public Schools is to provide all students with relevant, challenging educational experiences to prepare them to be engaged, responsible citizens and members of the global community."

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March 11, 2020

Dear Students and Families Participating in the Planned New York City Trip,

As a result of Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker, Health Secretary Marylou Sudders and the Abington Health Agent Marty Golightly's recommendation to avoid all nonessential travel, I regret to inform you that the trip to New York has been cancelled.

Although you may personally feel the risk to yourselves is small, health officials and authorities have clearly made this recommendation to protect not only you but also the general population from the spread of COVID 19 or Coronavirus as best as possible.

Mr. Shannon has been in touch with the travel company, Bob Rogers Travel. He has been informed that, *"Travel insurance does not consider the current situation a 'covered reason.'* *Should individual travelers wish to cancel, they could only receive a 75% refund if they purchased the Cancel for any Reason (or CFAR) package."* Although I know we will all completely disagree with this position, it is what the travel company is providing at this point. I am aware that Mr. Shannon is continuing to advocate on behalf of all with Bob Rogers Travel. Should he be able to find some relief from the company, he will be reaching out to you. Please feel free to email Mr. Shannon with any questions.

It is a difficult decision to cancel these trips as I know the amount of planning and excitement that comes with travel as a group. Please know it is being made to keep as many people as safe as possible and based on the best recommendations available.

Sincerely,

Peter Schafer
Superintendent of Schools