July 20, 2020

**RE: Student Use of Alcohol-Based Hand Sanitizer in School**

Dear Parent or Guardian,

This letter is to inform you of changes to our policy on use of hand sanitizer in school. Staff and students will be washing their hands at a significantly increased rate during the school day to help mitigate the spread of germs. If soap and water are not available, alcohol-based hand sanitizers (with at least 60% alcohol) are an effective alternative for cleaning hands and are recommended as an alternative to soap and water by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH).

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulates alcohol-based hand sanitizers as over-the-counter drugs. A physician’s order is needed to apply hand sanitizer for students during the school day. On June 30, 2020, the MDPH released a limited waver of 105 CMR 210.005(D)(2)(b) as it pertains to use of alcohol-based hand sanitizer in schools, allowing our school physician to write standing orders on behalf of our student body.

Considerations for student use of alcohol-based hand sanitizer in school:

* Staff will be supervising student use of hand sanitizer.
* Staff will apply hand sanitizer on behalf of young children and students who need assistance with application.

You do have the option to **opt your child out** of using alcohol-based hand sanitizer in school.
**If you would not like your child to use alcohol-based hand sanitizer during the school day, please fill out and return the form below by Monday, August 3rd, 2020**.

If you would like your child to have access to hand sanitizer during the school day, no action is necessary.

Thank you,

LABBB Nursing Department

Please **do not** use hand sanitizer on my child, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, at school. (Student Name)

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Parent/Guardian Signature Date