



**Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.**  
State Superintendent of Schools

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**TO:** Local School Superintendents

**FROM:** Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D. *KBK(ew)*

**DATE:** March 11, 2020

**SUBJECT:** Out-of-State Travel for Students and Staff

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Due to recent events regarding the spread of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), in consultation with the Maryland Department of Health (MDH), is advising that all scheduled out-of-state and international field trips sanctioned by local school systems for students and staff be cancelled indefinitely.

At this time, MSDE is not advising that local school systems recommend the cancellation of in-state field trips. However, MSDE encourages local superintendents to consider the continuation of planned in-state field trips on a case-by-case basis in consultation with your local health department.

As the situation concerning COVID-19 continues to evolve, MSDE and MDH will continue to consult with local school systems regarding travel considerations for students and staff. The health and safety of our school communities are paramount. We will continue to provide consistent communication and updates as we receive relevant information.

Please continue to communicate with your local health departments to assess the status of COVID-19 in your communities, and do not hesitate to contact MSDE or your Local Health Officer with additional questions and concerns.