

Kittery

School District

Truth & Knowledge

Eric F. Waddell • Superintendent of Schools • ewaddell@kitteryschools.com • (207) 475-1334

April 25, 2021

Good evening...

During the school break, I was informed that three individuals affiliated with the School District (one at Mitchell Primary School and two at Shapleigh School) tested positive for COVID-19. There were no school-related close contacts with any of the three cases.

The required CDC letters are attached. This should serve as a reminder to us all that this virus continues to be problematic. In fact, on Friday, Governor Mills placed **York County on a 'monitor list' as part of the Health Advisory System**. York County continues with a 'green' classification; however, with a rise in positive cases in York County, we will be closely monitored. Over the last 30 days, the rate of new cases for Maine school staff and students has risen to 45 per 10,000, but still remains about 40 percent lower than a new case rate of 74 per 10,000 for the general population in Maine.

Thank you for your continued vigilance. I am attaching the **Daily Self Check** as a reminder that it must be executed daily for all students and staff before arriving at school or before boarding a school bus.

Sincerely,



Eric Waddell
Superintendent of Schools

KITTERY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Eric F. Waddell *Superintendent of Schools* ewaddell@kitteryschools.com (207) 475-1334

April 24, 2021

Dear Staff, Students, and Families:

This letter is to inform you that an individual associated with Mitchell Primary School recently tested positive for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). **THERE ARE NO SCHOOL-RELATED CLOSE CONTACTS CONNECTED WITH THIS CASE.** We are informing you out of an abundance of caution. Please monitor yourself/your student for signs and symptoms. Call a health care provider if symptoms start. It is important that you call a health care facility before you show up in person. Stay home if you are sick. Please call your student's school nurse if your student develops symptoms, tests positive, or anyone in your household tests positive for COVID-19.

COVID-19 is a respiratory illness that ranges from mild to severe. It can be more severe in adults 60 years and older and in those with underlying conditions. The virus mainly spreads when an infected person coughs or sneezes and an uninfected person breathes in the virus. Signs and symptoms include:

fever or chills	cough	shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
fatigue	headache	muscle or body aches
sore throat	diarrhea	new loss of taste or smell
nausea or vomiting	congestion or runny nose	

Please keep in mind that many things can cause respiratory illness, so students and staff should be up-to-date on influenza and routine vaccinations.

Maine CDC or a school representative will contact you directly if you are identified as a close contact of someone who tested positive. Close contacts will be asked to quarantine for 14 days from last exposure to the positive individual, or for 10 days with a negative PCR test no less than 5 days from the last exposure. A negative test result does not get an individual out of quarantine. Close contacts who are fully vaccinated for COVID-19 are not required to quarantine. However, they must monitor themselves for 14 days, and if symptoms develop, they must quarantine immediately and seek a COVID-19 test.

Maine CDC recommends prevention measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19. These measures include proper handwashing with soap and warm water, which is especially important after using the bathroom, before eating, and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. When soap and water is not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands and avoid close contact with people who are sick. Cover your cough or sneeze into a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.

Questions for the school can be directed to Principal Gamache or Nurse Shay by calling 207-439-1707. You may also reach them via email: agamache@kitteryschools.com or ssathoplos@kitteryschools.com. For general COVID-19 questions, dial 211 (or 1-866-811-5695). You can also text your ZIP code to 898-211 or email info@211maine.org. Call a health care provider for questions about your symptoms. More information can be found at: www.maine.gov/dhhs/coronavirus or www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.

Sincerely,



Eric Waddell