

# Kittery

## School District

*Truth & Knowledge*

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

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December 19, 2020

Dear Mitchell families...

I am sorry to report that just minutes ago, I received notification that an individual associated with Mitchell Primary School received a positive COVID 19 test. There are close contacts within the school; school officials are currently in the process of contacting the cohort involved. The last possible exposure was Wednesday, December 16th.

This individual does ride a school bus, and the individual attends the KCC Gap Childcare Program. Officials from the KCC are contacting the families this evening of close contacts at KCC. Our transportation manager from Ledgemere is confirming now that there are no close contacts connected solely to the school bus. Although highly unlikely, any close contacts from the school bus will be identified, and those families will be notified ASAP.

I have attached a compulsory letter from the Maine CDC. If you have any questions, I urge you to email Principal Gamache ([agamache@kitteryschools.com](mailto:agamache@kitteryschools.com)) or Nurse Shay ([ssathoplos@kitteryschools.com](mailto:ssathoplos@kitteryschools.com)) via email this weekend. You may also call the school Monday morning if you have any questions (207-439-1707).

Take care.

Sincerely,



Eric Waddell  
Superintendent of Schools

# KITTERY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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*Eric F. Waddell* • *Superintendent of Schools* • [ewaddell@kitteryschools.com](mailto:ewaddell@kitteryschools.com) • (207) 475-1334

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December 19, 2020

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 is a possibility that other staff or students came in contact with this individual and therefore may be exposed to the virus. 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
- fatigue
- sore throat
- nausea or vomiting
- cough
- headache
- diarrhea
- congestion or runny nose
- shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- muscle or body aches
- new loss of taste or smell

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.

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 following a negative PCR test administered no sooner than 5 days from the last exposure. A negative test result does not get an individual out of quarantine.

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 at Shay Stathoplos, RN by calling 207-439-1707. 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](mailto:info@211maine.org). Call a health care provider for questions about your symptoms. More information can be found at: [www.maine.gov/dhhs/coronavirus](http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/coronavirus) or [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus).

Sincerely,



Eric Waddell  
Superintendent of Schools