

Kittery

School District

Truth & Knowledge

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R.W. Traip Academy*

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November 10, 2020

Dear Traip Academy faculty & staff...

At 7:28 AM this morning, I received an email from Eric Boucher, Terminal Manager at Ledgemere, that a driver for the company received a positive Covid-19 test late Monday. This particular driver is predominantly a York driver who drives the PM SRTC students from Traip Academy on Friday only.

I immediately launched our District protocol (aligned with the Maine DOE Standard Operating Procedure) by contacting Shay Stathoplos, District Nursing Director, who notified Maine DOE School Nurse Liaison Emily Polland. Nurse Shay also contacted Betsy Burke who had begun identifying the students on the bus (it was the SRTC afternoon group). 8 students were identified as riders on the bus. Although it is not required by the Maine CDC, we immediately removed those students from Traip Academy, contacted their families, and the kids went home.

We then continued our work with the Maine CDC to determine the validity of the positive test. We also obtained the seating chart for the school bus in question and reviewed the surveillance footage to ensure students were, in fact, seated in their assigned seats and properly wearing masks. In addition, we determined that windows were open as required by the Maine CDC.

At approximately 3:00 PM, Betsy Burke received the notification from the Maine CDC case manager that the students were not close contacts thanks to the mitigation efforts that were followed. One student was not masked for the entire trip, so that student will quarantine for 14 days out of an abundance of caution.

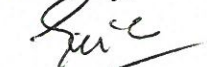
To be clear, the students' return trip that afternoon from SRTC to Traip Academy was on a different bus with a different driver.

We appreciated the speedy communication from Ledgemere this morning. The company cooperated fully with our contact tracing efforts. I am especially appreciative for the outstanding work of Betsy Burke and Shay Stathoplos.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to any of us--Betsy, Shay, John, Mike, or me.

Enjoy Veterans Day...

Sincerely,



Eric Waddell
Superintendent of Schools