



MAINE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT NO. 42

Elaine Boulier, Superintendent of Schools

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Telephone: 425-3771

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January 10, 2021

Dear Parents,

This letter is to update you on the status of positive cases of COVID-19 in our district. Since the letter dated January 6th, we have had 5 other individuals who have tested positive bringing the total to seven; there are also 6 individuals who have tested positive who did not return to school on Monday. These positive cases were a result of scenarios that occurred in our community and a neighboring community prior to school going back in session this past Monday. The positive cases thus far have not emanated from within the school.

With these additional positive cases, our direct contact list has grown to over 150 individuals including staff members. We will continue with remote learning and hope that our tentative return date to in-person instruction can remain at January 19th.

Please be aware that there is a large volume of community involvement with COVID-19. Please continue to be vigilant with your child(ren)'s health and monitor their temperature daily. If your child(ren) start developing any symptoms of COVID-19, please contact your primary care physician directly or have your child tested for the virus. As a reminder, signs and symptoms include: fever, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle aches, headache, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea. Even though we are in remote learning mode, it is extremely important that any positive findings be reported to the school nurse; in particular, the nurse needs to know when symptoms started to appear, if/when testing was done, and what the results of testing were.

Due to the large number of staff who are direct contacts and who are required to quarantine for 10 days, all junior/senior high staff will be teaching remotely from home. Some teachers from Fort Street School will be teaching remotely from home and others will continue to teach remotely from the school. Please reach out to your child(ren)'s teacher via email with any questions or concerns.

Even with the increase in community involvement with COVID-19, we will still continue to deliver meals to students (lunch/next day's breakfast). Buses will begin their deliveries at 10:30. In an effort to keep everyone safe, staff will continue to leave meals on the porch or at the front door. Please keep in mind that if you have not called either school during previous remote learning days for school lunch, please do so Monday morning by 9:30. If you have called in the past, your child's name is already on our current lunch list. Just a reminder that lunch is free to all students; it is a wonderful opportunity to get a well-balanced, nutritious meal at no cost to families.

Lastly, ALL after school activities including ALL sports will continue to be cancelled until we return to in-person learning. Please be assured that these decisions are difficult to make; thank you for your efforts and assistance during these remote learning days.

Maine CDC recommends prevention measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19. These measures include proper hand washing with soap and warm water, using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol, avoiding touching eyes, nose, and mouth, and avoiding close contact with people who are sick.

We apologize for inconveniences that may occur especially when quarantining; however please keep in mind that we are adhering to an approved standard operating procedure when/if students or staff have been in contact with or have tested positive for COVID-19. Questions for the school can be directed to myself by calling 425-3771 or to the respective building principal.

Sincerely,
Elaine Boulier, C.A.S.