



WINCHENDON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

“Working Together”

Joan Landers

Superintendent of Schools

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November 18, 2020

Good Afternoon,

We are writing to inform you that although two of our Pre-K classrooms have gone remote, they were **not** a result of Covid-19 exposure or positive tests within the classrooms. The two Pre-K classrooms are going remote, as we are no longer able to fully support them due to the number of staff in quarantine resulting from Covid-19 exposure while outside of school. As the faculty members were exposed to Covid-19 but have not tested positive or been symptomatic, there was no requirement for notifications of close contacts. The classrooms will return to the remote model effective Thursday, November 19, 2020, and resume our current model on Wednesday, December 2, 2020.

Our first responsibility is to keep our students and staff safe. We continue to remind our student body and staff to adhere to the safety protocols including, mask-wearing, hand washing, and social distancing. These measures, taken in combination, significantly reduce the risk of additional transmission. As a reminder, our general notification guidance is as follows:

- We will notify close contacts of anyone who is symptomatic or tests positive.
- If someone is asymptomatic but tests positive, close contacts will be notified as a result of the positive test.
- If someone is asymptomatic OR tests negative, no notifications are required.

We will continue to be vigilant in adhering to all of the protocols that have been put in place. We are also providing remote learning for all students affected by this situation to continue to provide instruction, structure, and an emotional connection to the classroom during a time that we know will be challenging for those children and families involved.

For more information on COVID-19 symptoms and testing, visit <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/about-covid-19-testing#where-can-get-a-test?>.

You can also find a map of testing sites at

<https://memamaps.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=e3a3f0395451430b9f631cb095feb13>.

Please contact us immediately should you or someone in your home begin to show symptoms or test positive for Covid-19.

We are committed to continuous communication with and support of our families and staff. If you have any additional questions or concerns, please contact Thad King at (tking@winchendonk12.org or 978-616-1490).

To protect the privacy rights of all involved, no information about staff will be released to the district or community.

We ask anyone who has become aware of the identities of any school staff involved to respect their rights by refraining from identifying them to others in any form of communication inclusive of email and social media.

Sincerely,

Superintendent Joan Landers

COVID-19 LEAD, Thad King