

DRACUT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Steven Stone Superintendent of Schools

November 25, 2020

Re: Update

Dear Members of the Dracut Public Schools Community:

On the eve of Thanksgiving, I am writing to share a few updates:

The incidence of active cases in the district remains at 12. The continued low rate of cases validates the hard work of students and staff. The active cases represent .002% of the school community. I remind everyone that we are providing an updated dashboard of active cases on our district <u>COVID page</u>.

As we enter the holiday season, it is imperative that everyone continue doing their part in keeping the incidence of the virus in our schools low. I remind everyone of the state's <u>Travel Order</u>, which restricts interstate travel and establishes quarantine rules should people travel to high-risk states. Given that Vermont and Hawaii are currently the only low risk states, and the fact that we border New Hampshire (recently identified as high risk), I understand that the restrictions are burdensome to those wishing to celebrate the holidays with family.

My main concern remains keeping our schools open. To date we have not had any cases of transmission of the virus in our schools. I am concerned about our ability to keep schools open should there be a large increase in positive cases just after Thanksgiving. I implore everyone to do whatever is necessary to ensure our students continue to have the ability to attend school in-person.

Lastly, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) recently updated the state's quarantine rules. You may find the updated guidance HERE.

As always, if you have medical questions, please feel free to contact a school nurse. If you have questions about a specific school's operations, please contact a building principal, and if you have any questions about the district's approach to the COVID-19 situation, please feel free to contact me directly.

I wish everyone a Happy and Healthy Thanksgiving.

#MIDDIEPRIDE

Sincerely,

Steven Stone Superintendent of Schools