Regional School Unit 1



34 Wing Farm Parkway, Bath, ME 04530

Patrick Manuel, Superintendent Debra Clark, Business Manager Katie Joseph, Assist. Superintendent Justin Keleher, Dir. Special Education

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January 10, 2021

Dear RSU 1 Community,

This letter is to inform you that the CDC has determined that both **Fisher-Mitchell School** and the **Morse High School/Bath Tech Campus** are on outbreak status. An outbreak means that there are three or more cases of COVID-19 within a 14-day period. While these are not epidemiologically linked, based on discussions with the Maine CDC, we are cleaning the school/classrooms and closing these schools for 10 days.

Since our last school day was Friday, January 8th, these two schools will return to in-person learning on Tuesday, January 19th. Given the Monday holiday on the 18th, students in these two buildings will participate in fully remote classes from Monday, January 11th - Friday, January 15th.

We would also like to inform you that over this weekend we were alerted to an individual at Woolwich Central School that also tested positive for COVID-19. While Woolwich is not considered on outbreak status, there are significant coverage needs due to staff and student close contact quarantining. We are currently unable to secure enough substitutes to cover these classes for this length of time. Given our already known substitute shortage during these difficult times, Woolwich Central School will also have to move to fully remote learning for the week of January 11-15th, with a return to in-person learning on Tuesday, January 19th.

The following schools will have their regularly scheduled classes this week:

- Phippsburg Elementary School
- Dike-Newell School
- Bath Middle School

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Telephone: (207) 443-6601 Facsimile: (207) 442-8295 http://www.rsu1.org/

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With active community transmission, please monitor yourself/your student for signs and symptoms. Call a health care provider if symptoms start. It is important that you call a healthcare facility before you show up in person. As a reminder, 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
- cough
- shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- muscle or body aches
- headache
- new loss of taste or smell
- sore throat

- congestion or runny nose
- nausea or vomiting
- diarrhea

The Maine DOE or 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 10 days from the last exposure to the positive individual. A negative test result does not get an individual out of quarantine.

Maine CDC recommends prevention measures to limit 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. Also, remaining up-to-date on all vaccines, including those for influenza.

Questions or concerns around COVID-19 can be directed to our school nurses. For general COVID-19 questions, dial 211 (or 1-866-811-5695). You can also text your ZIP code to

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898-211 or email info@211maine.org. Call a health care provider for questions about your symptoms. More information can be found at www.maine.gov/dhhs/coronavirus or www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.

Sincerely,

Patrick M. Manuel, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools

The RSU 1 Nursing Staff Contact Information:

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