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## Regional School Unit 57

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*RSU 57 prepares respectful, responsible and creative thinkers for success in the global community.*

September 27th, 2020

Dear RSU57 Staff, Students, and Families,

This letter is to inform you that there is an outbreak of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) at Massabesic Middle School. An outbreak means that there are three or more cases of COVID-19 within a 14-day period that are epidemiologically linked. Based on recommendations from the Maine CDC, we are closing Massabesic Middle School to help prevent further spread of COVID-19. **Massabesic Middle School was previously determined to be fully remote learning effective Monday, September 28th, and through at least October 13th.** We will work with the Maine CDC to determine when staff and students may safely return to school.

Out of an abundance of caution, **Massabesic High School students will also be moved to fully remote learning beginning Monday, September 28th** until at least Monday, October 5th.

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.

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
- fatigue
- muscle or body aches
- headache
- new loss of taste or smell
- sore throat
- congestion or runny nose
- nausea or vomiting
- diarrhea

Please keep in mind that many things can cause respiratory illness, so students and staff should be up-to-date on influenza and routine vaccinations.

Maine CDC or a school representative will contact you directly if you are identified as a close contact of someone who tested positive. Close contacts have been asked to quarantine for 14 days from last exposure to the positive individual. A negative test result does not get an individual out of quarantine.

Maine CDC recommends prevention measures to prevent 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.

Questions for the school can be directed to MMS Principal Kelly Grantham, MHS Principal James Hand, or Superintendent Larry Malone by calling 247-3221. For general COVID-19 questions, dial 211 (or 1-866-811-5695). You can also text your ZIP code to 898-211 or email [info@211maine.org](mailto:info@211maine.org). Call a health care provider for questions about your symptoms. More information can be found at [www.maine.gov/dhhs/coronavirus](http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/coronavirus) or [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus).

Sincerely,

Larry Malone, Superintendent  
Kelly Grantham, Principal MMS  
James Hand, Principal MHS