

## Regional School Unit #2

Dresden – Farmingdale – Hallowell – Monmouth – Richmond

Tonya Arnold, Superintendent of Schools  
7 Reed St., Hallowell, Maine 04347

October 28, 2020

RE: Contact Tracing Situation

Dear Dresden Elementary Team,

We received information today that the CDC is working on a contact tracing situation that involves one positive case at the school level.

At this moment, you are deemed safe and we are taking every precaution recommended by the CDC and DOE. Along those lines, we immediately began contacting staff and parents of students who may be considered potential close contacts. There was a staff meeting to discuss the process further this afternoon.

CDC assures us that with mask wearing and the other safety precautions we have in place, secondary contact (meaning being less than 6 ft away from a person who was in close contact with a different person with a positive test) is not a risk that would require quarantine or testing.

Any staff member or student deemed to be a close contact will receive detailed information and directions related to isolation, testing, quarantine, and criteria needed to be met to return to school both from the school and the CDC. We understand that the CDC conducts daily check in calls with all identified close contacts and they can provide a note of clearance if needed.

We believe that students should be at school, if and when it is safe to do so. The building will be sanitized a second time today in preparation for tomorrow.

Out of an abundance of caution, all of Dresden Elementary school will be fully remote beginning tomorrow through 11/9/20. Another update will be provided next week if needed.

These situations are stressful for everyone, but especially for those closest to the situation. Everyone must protect the privacy of others. The federal FERPA and HIPA laws require us to protect student privacy. HIPA and privacy rights of employees apply to all staff. Never tell someone else's story, especially in these situations. Please demonstrate the community compassion you do so well.

There is currently no impact on any other building within in the RSU.

Be kind, be safe, and stay healthy.

Sincerely,



Tonya Arnold  
Superintendent