



WINCHENDON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

“Working Together”

Joan Landers

Superintendent of Schools

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October 29, 2020

Dear Winchendon School Community,

I am writing today to inform you of two separate and unrelated Covid-19 issues in our school community we learned of yesterday afternoon. In one instance, we were informed that earlier this week, members of our school community were exposed to an individual who has since tested positive. The second, and completely unrelated case, we were informed of yesterday is that one of our school community members exhibited Covid-19 symptoms Monday evening but has exhibited no symptoms since that time. Our top priority is to keep the entire school community safe and have planned for these scenarios during the reopening process. We will follow the appropriate protocol for each of our cases and the school community members will be able to return only after following the appropriate procedure as outlined in the Covid-19 Protocol Manual. You can find our School Reopening Manual and Covid-19 Protocol Manual at these links: WPS Manual for Reopening <https://5il.co/mlon>, WPS COVID 19 Protocols <https://5il.co/mloo>.

We are following all Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) protocols and are working closely with the local Board of Health to complete contact tracing. As we embark on bringing students back to our buildings for in-person learning, we will be vigilant in following all protocols to keep our schools and community safe. Remember that as your students return to school buildings they should arrive to school with masks and will be expected to wear them while in the building except while eating and during mask breaks. We will also ensure appropriate social distancing and hand washing/sanitizing throughout the school day. For additional details regarding protocols we will be enacting during the school day, please refer to the School Reopening Manual referenced above. At all times we will protect the privacy rights of anyone involved and not share any information about a community member who tests positive or is identified through contact tracing. Additionally, we ask that anyone who is aware of community members involved to please respect their privacy and not share any information that might identify them to the public in any form of communication inclusive of social media.

Sincerely,

Joan Landers
Superintendent

Thad King
District Covid-19 Lead