

CLOSE CONTACT NOTIFICATION

READ THIS INFORMATION CLOSELY!

Dear BRES Families,

9.15.21

This letter is to inform you that we identified your child, **in GRADE 7**, as a CLOSE CONTACT to a single Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) positive case.

Because your child was exposed in a classroom setting where masks were worn, they do not have to quarantine from school, unless they are displaying symptoms.

However, the Maine CDC does REQUIRE close contacts who are UNVACCINATED to QUARANTINE IN THE COMMUNITY. This includes all school-sponsored extracurricular activities.

- This means that your child will need to **quarantine at home for 10 days except to attend school.** Although we learned about this today, we have determined that the last known contact date was **Wednesday September 15th (the range of contact dates were September 13th- 15th)**
- Your child is done with quarantine and may return to public settings and school-sponsored extracurricular activities on **Monday, September 25, 2021** as long as they are still NOT having ANY symptoms and have NOT tested positive.

What do I do RIGHT NOW?

- Your child should **NOT** be leaving the house/yard while in quarantine and they should **NOT** be interacting with people outside of your household, **except to attend school.** If they do, they are **violating the quarantine** and you may be putting the broader community at risk.
- The CDC recommends getting tested right away if they are not vaccinated. **If they test negative, your child should be tested again in 5-7 days after exposure.**
- **A negative test will NOT get a student out of quarantine.**
- You can arrange for testing by contacting your child's doctor/medical provider. Be sure to let them know your child IS a CLOSE CONTACT.
- If your student tests positive, please contact our school nurse immediately.
- In addition to this letter, you should receive a Sara alert with specific directions from the CDC unless you opted out of this service earlier this year.

The school is not at liberty to divulge specific information about the person who tested positive. We will continue to ensure that all safety measures have been followed. All BRES school families and staff will be notified of the situation and all proper CDC guidelines regarding the cleaning of the building and necessary quarantining of close contacts will be in place.

Preventing the spread of COVID-19

The virus mainly spreads when an infected person coughs or sneezes and an uninfected person breathes in the virus. The CDC recommends that all people take steps to prevent getting and spreading COVID-19. Wash hands regularly, stay at least 6 feet away from others whenever possible, and wear masks.

Signs and symptoms include:

- fever (100.4) 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 illness, so students should be up-to-date on influenza and routine vaccinations.

Contact details for more information:

- 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.
- For questions about your symptoms, call a healthcare provider. More information can be found at www.maine.gov/dhhs/coronavirus or www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.
- A link to testing sites can be found here:
<https://www.maine.gov/covid19/restartingmaine/keepmainehealthy/testing>

Thank you for your continued support as we navigate these challenging times together and work to keep everyone safe.

Sincerely,

Shawna M. Kurr, Principal

Kate Schwem, School Nurse