October 18, 2020

Dear Marathon Parents and Guardians,

We were advised on Sunday, October 18, that a person who was in attendance in the 11th grade cohort at the Jr./Sr. High School tested positive for the COVID-19 virus. We were contacted by the Cortland County Health Department, which initiated an investigation and the contract tracing process. On Sunday, Marathon staff reached out to families of students that may have been in contact with the individual who has tested positive for COVID 19. Health Department personnel will officially reach out to anyone who has had close contact with the individual who tested positive and provide quarantine guidelines. If you or anyone in your family is not contacted by the Health Department, this means that the department has determined you were not exposed. Out of an abundance of caution, Grades 6-12 will be moving to remote learning on Monday, October 19th and Tuesday, October 20th to assist the contact tracing process and to minimize exposure for all students and staff. UPK-5th grade will continue in-person learning on Monday and Tuesday.

We will make meals available for interested families for students in grades 6-12. Please call the HS office or email Mrs. Penrose if you would like meals for Monday and Tuesday as soon as possible. All afterschool activities will be canceled until in-person learning resumes. More information will be forthcoming as soon as possible.

The person who tested positive, and any other students/faculty/staff who were exposed, will not return to school until the Cortland County Health Department provides clearance for them to do so. We hope you understand that we cannot provide any additional information about the person who tested positive due to confidentiality concerns. We will continue to deep clean and sanitize our school buildings and school buses on a daily basis.

Please continue to practice and encourage good hand-washing hygiene, wear face masks, and practice social distancing. If you or a family member start to exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 (defined by CDC to include fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, muscle pain or body aches, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, fatigue, diarrhea, nausea or vomiting, congestion or running nose), please reach out to your physician and inform the appropriate school nurse. If you do not have a physician, you can call Guthrie Cortland Medical Central at (607) 299-7676, Upstate Medical University at (315) 464-3979 or Cayuga’s Call Center at (607) 319-5708. If you would like further information on COVID-19, please go to this Cortland County website, https://www.cortland-co.org/979/COVID-19-FAQ.

We thank you for your understanding and patience. We will continue to support our students, families, faculty and staff to the best of our ability. Let’s all continue to work together to stay healthy, so our schools can stay open.
Sincerely,

Rebecca Stone
Marathon CSD Superintendent