

Marathon Central School District
Office of the Superintendent of Schools
Post Office Box 339
1 Park Street, Marathon, New York 13803

Mrs. Rebecca Stone
Superintendent

Mrs. Heather Euson
District Clerk

October 23 , 2020

Dear Parents and Community Members,

We were advised this morning that a person in one of our 2nd grade podded classrooms has tested positive for the COVID-19 virus. The person in question was also a bus rider. With the safety precautions we have in place at Appleby (podded classrooms) as well as on our buses (all riders wearing masks, household members sitting together, first 2 and last 2 windows on the bus open) we were able to greatly reduce the number of children and adults exposed. We have identified students and staff who have had contact with the person in question and have reached out to all of those individuals and/or their parents. We would like to thank parents for promptly picking up their children and transporting them home. The necessary technology as well as food for the week was made available for all affected children.

The Broome County Health Department has initiated an investigation as well as the contact tracing process. Health Department personnel will officially reach out to anyone who has had close contact with the individual who tested positive and provide quarantine guidelines. **We have noticed that the contact tracing process does take some time.** It is extremely important that families answer the phone to ensure you are able to talk with contact tracers. Phone numbers are often viewed as out of area phone numbers. If you or anyone in your family is **not** contacted by the school and the Health Department, this means that the department has determined you were not exposed. As of today, the 2nd grade classroom and identified bus riders will be quarantined through November 2nd. *At this time*, we are planning to have the remaining UPK-5th grade classes in person on Monday.

As always, 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 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 principal. 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