



AUGUSTA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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James Anastasio, M.A.
Superintendent

November 3, 2020

Katherine Grondin, CAS
Assistant Superintendent

Dear Parents, Students, and Staff:

Kathy Casparius,
M.B.A., M.C.T.E.
Business Manager

This letter is to inform you that an individual associated with Hussey Elementary School recently tested positive for COVID-19. There is a possibility that staff members and 20 plus students came in contact with this individual and therefore may have been exposed to the virus. We are informing you out of an abundance of caution.

Susan Walters, CAS
Director of Special Education

Board of Education

As a result of the positive case, and the possibility of other students and staff being exposed, Hussey Elementary will switch to remote instruction on the days students were scheduled for in person instruction for the remainder of this week (November 4th to 6th). The time will be utilized for deep cleaning and additional contact tracing. Remote instruction will be provided for Hussey's Cohort A on Thursday and for Cohort B on Friday. Wednesday will be the same as usual.

Edward Hastings
Board Chair

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Ward 1

Christopher Clarke
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Ward 4

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At Large

Individuals who were in close contact will be notified by Hussey Administration. Hussey students and staff should be monitored for signs and symptoms. Please call a health care provider if symptoms are present or begin. It is important that you call a healthcare facility before you show up in person. Please stay home if you're sick.

School officials will be monitoring this situation in collaboration with the DOE and CDC during the remainder of the week. A decision on the mode of operation for the week of November 9th – 13th will be made by the end of the day on Friday, November 6th.

COVID-19 is a respiratory illness that ranges from mild to severe. It can be more severe in adults 60 years and older and in those with underlying conditions. The virus mainly spreads when an infected person coughs or sneezes and an uninfected person breathes in the virus. Signs and symptoms include:

Fever or chills	New loss of taste or smell
Cough	Sore throat
Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing	Congestion or runny nose
Fatigue	Nausea or vomiting
Muscle or body aches	Diarrhea
Headache	

Please keep in mind that many things can cause respiratory illness, so students and staff should be up-to-date on influenza and routine vaccinations.

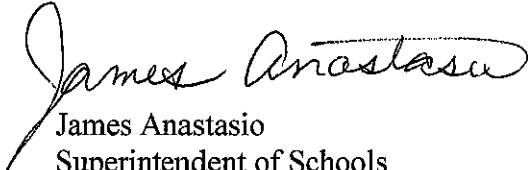
Maine CDC recommends prevention measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19. These measures include proper handwashing with soap and warm water, which is

especially important after using the bathroom, before eating, and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. When soap and water is not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands and avoid close contact with people who are sick. Cover your cough or sneeze into a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.

School questions can be directed to Troy Alexander, school principal or Bonnie Dixon-Tribou, school nurse. For 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. Call a health care provider for questions about your symptoms. More information can be found at www.maine.gov/dhhs/coronavirus or www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.

It is unfortunate that we all are dealing with an interruption to school and inconvenience and frustration as a result, but the health and safety of students and staff is more important.

Sincerely,



James Anastasio
Superintendent of Schools