

MES Family Update - October 14

Good afternoon MES Families,

Please see the letter below from Dr. Sklarz:

Marlborough School District

25 SCHOOL DRIVE, MARLBOROUGH, CONNECTICUT 06447

Telephone: (860) 295-6236

Dr. David P. Sklarz, Superintendent

October 14, 2020

Dear Marlborough Families:

I am writing to inform you that we were notified that one of our staff members has tested positive for COVID 19. Upon receiving these results we followed our protocol that requires Principal White and Assistant Principal Kelley to immediately contact Chatham Health Director, Russ Melmed, and collaboratively determine the necessary steps in adhering to Chatham Health District and CDC guidelines and school safety. This staff member has not been in the school or in contact with any students or other members of the staff since October 7th and remains quarantined until October 20th and the virus was contracted from a family member. Based on the findings it was determined that no students or staff were at risk of exposure in this case.

COVID-19 is spread mainly via person-to-person contact through contaminated air droplets from coughing and sneezing by an infected person. As with controlling the spread of other viruses, we urge everyone to discuss the following preventive measures with your children and family members:

- Wash your hands frequently, but especially after using the restroom and before preparing or consuming food. Using soap and hot water wash for about 20 seconds. Be sure to also wash your fingertips. When soap and water are not available, use hand sanitizer.
- Avoid coughing or sneezing into your hands or in the air. Always try to cough or sneeze into a tissue, then throw the tissue away. If you don't have a tissue, cough/sneeze inside the elbow of your arm.
- As much as you can, avoid touching your eyes, mouth, and nose.
- Wear a face covering (mask) whenever there is a likelihood that you or your family members will be in the presence of others.
- Maintain social distancing (at least 6 feet) between yourself and others when outside of your home.

Below is the list of COVID-19 symptoms for which everyone should monitor in their family members:

- Fever (100.4° Fahrenheit or higher)
- Chills or shaking chills
- Uncontrolled new cough (not due to other known cause, such as chronic cough)
- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- New loss of taste or smell

Staff and students exhibiting any of the above symptoms, or feeling ill, should call their medical provider to report their symptoms and ask about testing prior to seeking in-person care at a clinic, physician's office, or hospital.

Our school administrators, the Chatham Health District Director and our School Nurse, Alice Mecca, continue to work closely in all COVID- related incidents and will continue close communication with families. As always, please feel free to contact Principal White or Assistant Principal Kelley at any time.

Sincerely,

David P. Sklarz, Ed.D.

Superintendent