

March 19, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians and Staff:

Today we were notified of a positive COVID-19 individual at Mason Middle School. All close contacts have been notified and are currently quarantining.

Per our outlined plan, we are required to communicate with the Monroe County Health Department upon notification of any positive case. We have been in contact with the head of disease control for the Monroe County Health Department and are following the guidance outlined regarding notification, quarantine, and response to a positive case.

As a reminder, the virus that causes COVID-19 is thought to spread mainly from person to person, through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs. Spread is more likely when people are less than 6 feet from other each other for at least 15 minutes. A person who is a close contact of someone who is infected with COVID-19 may experience COVID-19 symptoms typically within 2 to 14 days after a person is exposed.

The symptoms of COVID-19 are similar in children and adults.

The principal symptoms of COVID-19 now include any of the following NOT explained by a known medical or physical condition: • Fever (100.4 +) • an uncontrolled cough • shortness of breath

OR At least two of the following NOT explained by a known medical or physical condition: • Loss of taste or smell • myalgia (muscle pain) • sore throat • severe headache • diarrhea • vomiting • abdominal pain

There are many things that can be done to keep our schools, homes, and communities "COVID-19 free" and protect ourselves and loved ones:

> Check your temp each morning. Children and adults should stay home when ill.

> Wash hands often with soap and running warm water for at least 20 seconds.

 $\succ$  If a hand washing station is not available, use hand sanitizer properly. Gels, rubs, and hand wipes must contain at least 60% alcohol. Dispose of wipes in the trash after use.

➤ Practice Good Respiratory Etiquette (cover a cough with elbow versus hand).

> Follow guidance for wearing a face covering and social distancing.

No further action is required, yet we encourage you to continue to monitor and evaluate your child's health daily by using the student screening found on the COVID-19 page of the District/School Website. Additionally, up to date resources can be found on the Monroe County Health Department page at <u>www.co.monroe.mi.us</u>



Further questions regarding COVID-19 can be answered by contacting the Monroe County Health Department at (734)240-7860.

Please know that when a case is identified, we conduct additional cleaning and disinfecting in areas throughout the school and transportation if applicable. We will continue to have students and staff wear facial coverings while in buildings and social distancing wherever possible, along with continued cleaning and disinfecting of light switches, doorknobs/push bars, locker handles, toys, bathrooms, copy machines, busses, desks, etc. in addition to our regular cleaning and disinfecting schedule.

Additionally, please be reminded that resources and information regarding COVID-19 and Mason Consolidated Schools confirmed and probable cases can be found by visiting the District website COVID-19 page.

Respectfully,

Kelli a. Tuller

Superintendent, Mason Consolidated Schools