

Montgomery Township School District

Creating confident, compassionate, and successful learners

COVID-19 Communication: November 19, 2020

Return to Full Virtual Learning 11/20/20

November 19, 2020

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Staff:

Please disregard the email sent a few minutes ago. This is the correct letter for 11-19-2020.

This letter is to inform you that a member of the Montgomery High School community has tested positive for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). The District is coordinating closely with the department of health to assure the health and safety of our community.

In order to conduct contact tracing, a higher number than usual of staff and students were sent home to afford the district and health department time to responsibly communicate with these individuals and families. The contact tracing of 71 students and 14 adults has begun. Of those individuals, 35 students and 12 staff members were present in the building and were sent home from in-person instruction this morning. Due to the number of school staff members required to remain at home, the rising number of cases throughout the State, and in conjunction with the township department of health **ALL Montgomery Township Schools** will begin the full virtual model of instruction Friday, November 20, 2020. During this time of virtual instruction, entry into schools will be limited; community members must call ahead to make appointments to gain entry to schools. We will return to the hybrid in-person instructional model on Tuesday, January 19, 2021.

Cleaning and disinfecting of all exposed areas have been completed. The schools are also taking precautions to prevent the introduction and spread of viruses and other germs and are cleaning frequently touched surfaces daily. The status of this situation is fluid, and we are monitoring it closely.

We understand the level of concern regarding COVID-19. We encourage parents and students to continue following the [Centers for Disease Control & Prevention](#) promoted safeguards, such as:

- Staying home when you are sick;
- Washing hands often with soap for at least 20 seconds;
- Covering coughs and sneezes and properly disposing of tissues;
- Limiting close contact with people who are sick and not sharing food, drinks and utensils;
- Practicing social distancing (staying at least 6 feet apart);
- Wearing a face covering while in school; and
- Continuing to monitor your health for symptoms.

As always, we appreciate our community's support and cooperation. You can assist us by remaining vigilant but sensible in your approach to dealing with this health concern. Should you have any questions about this situation, please feel free to contact the building principal or school nurse. Below are some resources that might be helpful.

Have a wonderful and safe holiday season!

RESOURCES

- a. NJDOH COVID-19 Information for Communities and the General Public: https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/covid2019_community.shtml
- b. Get the Facts about Coronavirus: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- c. Symptoms of COVID-19: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptomstesting/symptoms.html>
- d. Testing: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/testing/index.html>; <https://covid19.nj.gov/pages/testing>
- e. How to Protect Yourself: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-gettingsick/prevention.html>
- f. What to Do if You Are Sick: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/stepswhen-sick.html>

Sincerely,
Mary E. McLoughlin
Superintendent of Schools