



October 28, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Today, two students from Grant D. Morse Elementary School and four students from Riccardi Elementary School were designated positive for COVID-19. The New York State Department of Health has determined that if a student is sick with symptoms of COVID-19 and does not get tested, that they will automatically be **designated positive**.

17 students and 14 staff members at Morse and 43 students and 21 staff members at Riccardi have been identified to be in proximate contact with these individuals and are now mandated to quarantine for 14 days from the last day of exposure. The school has notified these individuals already and the Ulster County Department of Health will be following up. If you did not receive a phone call, your child was **not** considered to be in proximate contact with the students designated positive.

The students designated positive will remain in isolation in accordance with New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) guidelines (see page A-2 of the NYSDOH Toolkit), which is available at <https://on.ny.gov/35KSwJk>. As a reminder, due to many privacy laws, we are unable to identify the individuals who were designated positive for COVID-19.

Due to the high number of faculty and staff who have been mandated to quarantine at Grant D. Morse and Riccardi Elementary Schools, we have made a determination to pivot both buildings to 100% remote learning. Please see the table below for the anticipated return to the Hybrid Model. Should we receive information which allows us to pivot back to Hybrid sooner, we will notify everyone via text, email, and automated call.

School	Learning Plan	Anticipated Return to Hybrid
Cahill Elementary School	Hybrid	
Morse Elementary School	Full Remote through November 6	Monday, November 9
Mt. Marion Elementary School	Full Remote through November 4	Thursday, November 5
Riccardi Elementary School	Full Remote through November 9	Tuesday, November 10
Jr. High School	Hybrid	
Sr. High School	Hybrid	

The classroom teacher and/or building principal will provide more information to families regarding the instructional schedule during this period of remote instruction. More information is available at <https://bit.ly/2Tu48dR>.

While the buildings are closed, they will undergo an extensive cleaning and disinfecting process. The District will continue to work closely with the Ulster County Department of Health and follow all guidance provided in order to ensure our students and staff are safe.

As a reminder, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) advises that COVID-19 spreads mainly from having close contact with someone who has a COVID-19 infection. This virus can be spread by people without symptoms. This is why wearing a mask, social distancing, and frequent hand washing/sanitizing is so important.

Symptoms may appear 2 to 14 days after exposure to the virus and include fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headaches, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea. **It is essential that if your child has any of these symptoms related to COVID-19, that they stay home from school. Consult with your child’s doctor for advice whenever needed.**

We continue to urge vigilance and responsibility. The only way to prevent the spread of this virus is by taking precautions and personal responsibility for your interactions. Remember we are all in this together.

Sincerely,

Kirk Reinhardt
Superintendent