



MINNEAPOLIS  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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2.13.21

Dear Families,

We were notified a member of the MAST Ski Team community has tested positive for COVID-19. It is possible the person was able to spread the disease while participating in MPS programming on February 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. We cannot for privacy reasons share details about the person. At this time, they have been told to stay home and away from other people (in isolation) until they are well and can no longer spread the disease.

We have worked with the Minneapolis Health Department (MHD) to identify those who were in close contact with the person who tested positive for COVID-19, and have told them directly to stay home and/or to work from home for 14 days, even if they have a negative COVID-19 test during that time. This is how long it can take to show signs of the disease.

**If you have not been contacted, your child is not considered a close contact, and there is nothing special you need to do.**

Because the spread of COVID-19 from unknown sources is widespread in Minnesota, you should continue to watch your child for COVID-19 symptoms, which include:

- Fever of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher
- New cough or a cough that gets worse
- Difficulty/hard time breathing
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- New nasal congestion/stuffy or runny nose
- Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea
- Muscle pain
- Extreme fatigue/feeling very tired
- New severe/very bad headache
- Chills

If your child gets symptoms, they should stay home and you should talk with their doctor or other health care provider to decide if they need to see a doctor and/or to get tested for COVID-19. Please review the following resources:

- [Home Screening Tool for COVID-19 Symptoms \(PDF\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/homescreen.pdf)  
(<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/homescreen.pdf>)
- [COVID-19 Attendance Guide for Parents and Families \(PDF\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/attendance.pdf)  
(<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/attendance.pdf>)

## GENERAL NOTIFICATION FOR FAMILIES

We understand that this news may make people feel uneasy and we are working closely with MHD to watch the situation. We are asking all members of our community to lower the chance of spreading illness by taking the following actions:

- Protect yourself and others by wearing a face covering.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes; do not touch your face with unwashed hands.
- If you are sick, stay home from school, child care, sports, and other activities.
- Clean all commonly touched surfaces often, such as telephones, doorknobs, countertops, etc.

Resources that you may find helpful:

- [MDH Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/index.html\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/index.html)
- [MDH Schools and Child Care: COVID-19 \(https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/index.html\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/index.html)
- [CDC Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) \(https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html\)](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html)

This is a challenging time and I know you may be feeling stress or anxiety. You can seek support services by contacting the MPS Mental Health Support Hotline at 612-767-4158. If you have further questions, please contact Amber Spaniol, Director of Health Services 612-517-8075.

Thank you for helping to keep our school community safe.