



MOUNTAINSIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT

MOUNTAINSIDE BOARD OF EDUCATION
1497 WOODACRES DRIVE
MOUNTAINSIDE, NJ 07092
PHONE: (908) 232-3232
FAX: (908) 232-1743

Mrs. Janet Walling
Superintendent of Schools

www.mountainsideschools.org

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Mountainside Staff and Parents/Guardians:

I am writing to let you know that I am aware of a variety of health concerns that have been brought up throughout the day today due to some recent positive COVID-19 cases in and around Mountainside.

We are currently working with the Westfield Health Department and our staff to look into any and all verified cases which might impact our students, staff, and classrooms. This process includes determining if students or staff were in close contact with a person who may have been found positive or been exposed as a close contact to someone else who has tested positive.

- As a reminder, the contact tracing procedure is conducted in conjunction with the Westfield Health Department.
 - Determinations of close-contact and any recommendations for quarantine or the closure of any school buildings, classrooms or programs would be made based upon guidance and input from the Westfield Health Department.
- It is very important to keep in mind that **close contact is defined by the NJ Department of Health as spending 15 or more cumulative minutes within 6 feet of an infected individual, over a 24 hour period.**
 - All classrooms in Mountainside currently maintain regular 6 foot distancing between student desks. This, along with our strict adherence to mask wearing, sanitizing between classes, and practicing regular handwashing/use of sanitizer are integral components of our health and safety plan. Additionally, all classrooms receive thorough sanitizing and fogging on a daily basis.

To help keep our entire school community safe, please remember the following:

- Your child should stay home and self-quarantine if waiting for COVID-19 test results or if he/she has been identified as being a close contact of someone who has tested positive.
 - Students who are on quarantine will be added to our remote learning cohort.
 - Please notify the school principal if your child needs to be added to the remote cohort.
- Notify your child's principal and/or school nurse immediately if your child tests positive for, or is suspected of having, COVID-19
- Practice social distancing (staying at least 6 feet apart);
- Wear a face covering;
- Continuing to monitor your child's health for symptoms.

I will continue to update the school community over the next few days regarding any additional concerns or if there is any potential impact to our schools and/or classrooms.

Be well,
Janet Walling