

SAU 72
Alton School District
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November 18, 2020

Dear Alton Central School Families,

We were informed today of a confirmed case of COVID-19 at our school. The staff member works in a self-contained class and has not been in school since November 6.

Our nurse, administrators and teachers are actively working with and following guidelines from the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (NH DHHS). All staff members and children who were in close contact with the staff member (within 6 feet for longer than 10 minutes) have already been contacted. Anyone identified as a close contact, will only need to be in quarantine until this Friday, November 20 since the last date of possible exposure was 12 days ago (November 6, 2020). They may return to school on Monday, November 23. A guide for self-quarantine can be found [here](#).

The safety of our children and employees is our top priority. Due to the fidelity to our CARE Plan regarding social distancing (6' desk placement), keeping cohorts of children separated during the day, maintaining hand sanitation, wearing a mask, and remaining in single classrooms, contract tracing was contained to a very small area of the building and easily tracked.

The ACS CARE Plan calls for deep cleaning upon notice of a positive case. As a result, we will pivot to remote instruction on Thursday and Friday, November 19 and 20. On Monday, November 23, school will resume in its usual fashion, for a very short week as we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving.

If you or your child are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, such as a fever, chills, respiratory illness, aches or change in taste and smell, please stay home and away from others and get a COVID-19 PCR test. You may also choose to seek out testing from your healthcare provider or at one of the testing sites located throughout the state (<https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/cdcs/covid19/documents/covid-testing-options.pdf>). If you choose either of those options, you should bring this letter with you.

Children may worry about themselves, their family and friends getting sick with COVID-19. Tips for talking to children about COVID-19 can be found [here](#). If you have any questions, please feel free to contact anyone at the school. We are all in this together.

Most Sincerely,



Pamela Stiles, M.Ed., CAGS
Superintendent of Schools