

Kelly M. Lyman  
Superintendent

September 28, 2021

Dear Mansfield Staff and Families,

We learned today that a member of the Mansfield Middle School community has tested positive for COVID-19. Contact tracing has been completed and any person exposed has been notified and will follow protocols for quarantining.

A few details regarding contact tracing. Mansfield Public Schools conducts contact tracing in collaboration with Eastern Highlands Health District (EHHD). The criteria used are provided by the State Department of Public Health and the CDC. Typically the school conducts the contact tracing for the school day hours while EHHD conducts the contact tracing for times outside of school hours. We must identify every individual who was within 6 feet (or three feet in a classroom when masks are worn) of the COVID-positive person for 15 minutes or more – cumulatively – for the 48 hours prior to the onset of symptoms or the date of test if no symptoms are present.

As you can imagine, this is both a laborious and detailed process. It is often necessary for us to connect with families for important information – especially families of COVID-positive students. You can help us out by thinking back over the infectious time period (48 hours prior to the onset of symptoms or the date of test if no symptoms are present) and being prepared to describe the symptoms, when they began, and the activities from that time to when your child was last in school. Our contact tracing includes the bus ride, lunch and recess times, and school sponsored afterschool activities. Likewise, please be prepared to share information with EHHD about out of school activities such as sports, events with family or friends, and other times your child was outside the home.

Even though we have been doing this for many months now, we must continue to be diligent about collecting accurate information and identifying those individuals who may have become infectious. We appreciate your understanding and support with these efforts.

Sincerely,



Kelly M. Lyman