

BUNKER HILL MIDDLE SCHOOL

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"Bulldog...It's more than our mascot; it's our character"

Michael J. D'Ostilio Principal Gregory Muscelli, Ed.D. Assistant Principal

January 4, 2021

Dear Bulldog Families and Staff,

I hope everyone has a had a restful and safe break. As is obvious, across the country, cases of COVID-19 continue to spike. As of the last correspondence from the New Jersey Department of Health, we continue to have state recommendations. As promised, we continue to let you know of positive cases surrounding Bunker Hill Middle School. It is important that we communicate these cases so that families can make the best decisions based on family circumstances.

Therefore, I must report to you that while we were on winter break, three (3) individuals (students and/or staff) reported to have tested positive for COVID-19. It continues to remain essential that families inform us of positive cases in the household so that we can work in partnership to keep everyone safe.

To reiterate and excerpt from a letter I sent on December 20, 2020:

Please remember that since there has not been any in person instruction, the exposure to anyone in the school community has been greatly contained. As always, unless you were notified directly, there is no exposure of a "direct contact" nature to you or your students/children. We also discussed the importance of keeping Mrs. Keane (our school nurse) informed of positive COVID-19 results during the remote setting.

So that we don't inundate you with the same correspondence over and over, the links below are past letters to you that provide specific details regarding courses of action we take in the in person and remote settings and how our decisions are affected by the trajectory of the pandemic. Please see below:

<u>September 24, 2020</u>...Reference of our first COVID-19 Positive Case and the contact tracing and cleaning protocols we do for each case when the individual was in the building.

November 24, 2020... Explanation of the difference between "symptomatic" and "presumptive positive".

<u>December 10, 2020</u>...Reminder to keep Mrs. Keane informed (even in the remote environment) of COVID-19 Positive Cases.

<u>All Bunker Hill Correspondence to Families</u>...Location of all past and current newsletters and written correspondence during the 20-21 school year from Mr. D'Ostilio to families. This includes all letters of affirmed positive COVID-19 Cases surrounding Bunker Hill Middle School

<u>COVID Act Now – Gloucester County, NJ</u>...Tracks (live) the numbers of COVID-19 cases and positivity ratings in Gloucester County. It also makes recommendations.

<u>New Jersey Department of Health Weekly Report</u>...This report is current based on the previous weeks' numbers. This is always a week behind, but this report updates every Thursday.

It is our hope that 2021 brings some relief in the transmission of these cases so that we can remain in person with instruction as much as social distancing regulations allow.

Sincerely,

Mike D'Ostilio