

September 1, 2020

Dear MSAD No. 75 Families:

As we begin the school year, we are excited to be coming back together. We are following the Maine CDC guidelines as well as the recommendations put forth by the Department of Education and the Maine Association of School Nurses.

We understand that you will have many questions and concerns, and we hope to address some of these here as you prepare yourselves and your students for a return to school.

As school nurses, we also know that everyone must make an effort to keep our community safe. We can only do this if we work together. We are asking you to do the following:

1. Complete the [pre-screening tool](#) every morning before coming to school. This screener walks you through signs and symptoms of COVID-19. It is important to do exactly as it says. **IF** your child has just **ONE** of the most common symptoms, such as a cough, he/she needs to stay home.
2. If your child is sick, please keep him/her home.
3. Do not send your child to school after giving them any fever-reducing medication for fever or illness (Tylenol, Advil, Ibuprofen, Motrin, etc).
4. If daily medications can be given at home, please do so.
5. Have plans for:
  - Transportation home if your child is sick during the school day
  - The possibility that your child may need to be home for an extended period of time (quarantine, illness, school closure, etc.)

***Importantly, please make sure that your child's immunizations are up to date. This is especially important during a pandemic to keep other infectious diseases out of the school as much as possible.***

We will provide updates to families if any information changes. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

MSAD No. 75 School Nurses

***Therese Chamberland, RN  
Ellen Martel, RN***

***Kelsey Fogg, RN  
Naomi Mullane, RN***

***Lori Huot, RN***

## **Frequently-Asked Questions**

### **Must my child wear a face covering at school?**

Yes. Children aged 5 and older, and adults will wear face coverings on the bus and in school. Two face coverings will be provided to every student by the District. They may remove them to eat and drink but must maintain a 6-foot distance when doing so. The students will be taught how to properly wear and store their masks. It is important for your child to have a clean mask each day.

According to the latest CDC guidance:

- Wear masks with two or more layers to stop the spread of COVID-19 (a single layer bandana or handkerchief tied in a triangle fashion is not an acceptable face covering).
- Wear the mask over your nose and mouth and secure it under your chin.
- Neck gaiters are not approved at this time.

### **What is the District doing to reduce the spread of the virus?**

The following are being done daily:

- Pre-screening tool
- Physical distancing
- Face coverings
- Hand hygiene
- Personal protective equipment

### **How will illness be handled at school?**

If a student displays any symptoms of Covid-19, he/she will be kept in an isolation room until a parent arrives. ***Please be available by phone and make arrangements for your child to be promptly picked up from school.***

### **What will happen if there is a positive case in an MSAD No. 75 school?**

The Maine CDC handles all communicable diseases in Maine, by Law, and will coordinate with the school on a case- by-case basis.