

Maine School Administrative District No. 32

Ashland
Garfield Plantation
Masardis
Oxbow Plantation

Office of the Superintendent
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New England Association
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Gehrig T. Johnson, Ph. D.
Superintendent of Schools



Tracy Long
Administrative Assistant

Joel Hall
Assistant Supt. of Schools
Pre K-12 Principal

Sherry Hodgins
Technology Director/
Administrative Assistant

Dear Students, Families, and Staff,

We are writing to inform you that a person affiliated with another school system came into contact with Ashland District School students and staff during an outdoor athletic event hosted at another local school on September 9, 2021. The student tested positive for the coronavirus (COVID-19) the following day. At this time, there are no positive cases within the student population at Ashland District School, however our athletes are considered to be close contacts.

Our School Health department notified the students considered close contacts to the individual who tested positive. If you have not been contacted, your student is not considered a close contact. We have approximately 9 students who are considered close contacts and will need to quarantine for 10 days. 10 additional students are considered close contacts, but do not need to quarantine since the students are fully vaccinated. The quarantine recommendation is ten days from last possible contact with the individual who tested positive for COVID. These close contacts will be out of ten-day quarantine and are welcome back to school activities on Monday, September 20. At this time, **Ashland District School will maintain in-person instruction without interruption for all other students and staff.**

ADS officials have been in contact with the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and are following the protocols and procedures outlined for schools to follow when a case of the coronavirus occurs in a school. The CDC recommends that close contacts of a person who tests positive for the coronavirus should quarantine for 10 days.

COVID-19 is a respiratory illness that ranges from mild to severe. The virus mainly spreads when an infected person coughs or sneezes and an uninfected person breathes in the virus. Signs and symptoms include:

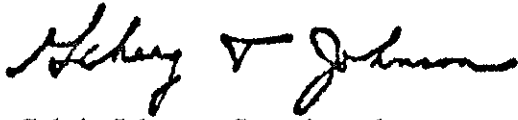
- fever or chills • cough • shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- fatigue • muscle or body aches • headache
- sore throat • new loss of taste or smell • congestion or runny nose
- nausea or vomiting • diarrhea

For general COVID-19 questions, dial 211 (or 1-866-811-5695). You can also text your ZIP code to 898-211 or email info@211maine.org. Call a health care provider for questions about

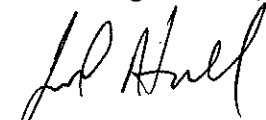
your symptoms. More information can be found at www.maine.gov/dhhs/coronavirus or www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.

Please continue to take the necessary precautions against the coronavirus in order to reduce the spread of the disease. Feel free to reach out to our School Nurse, Sheila Nemer at snemer@sad32.org or Principal Joel Hall at jhall@sad32.org if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gehrig Johnson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "G" and a distinct "J".

Dr. Gehrig Johnson, Superintendent

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joel Hall". The signature is cursive and somewhat compact, with a large initial "J" and "H".

Joel Hall, Asst. Superintendent/Principal