

# Maine School Administrative District No. 32

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September 14, 2021

Dear Students, Families, and Staff,

We are writing to inform you that two people associated with Ashland District School have tested positive for the COVID-19 virus. The students tested positive for the coronavirus (COVID-19) after being in school on September 13, 2021.

Our School Health department notified the students and staff considered close contacts to the individuals who tested positive due to proximity in a classroom or on the bus. If you have not been contacted, your student is not considered a close contact. We have approximately 15 students who are considered close contacts and will need to quarantine for 10 days. 4 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 Friday, September 27. 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