

Sunday, April 25, 2021

Dear Chatfield-LoPresti Families and Staff,

We hope this email finds you all safe and well. We learned this afternoon that several more students and staff members at Chatfield-LoPresti School have unfortunately tested positive for coronavirus (COVID19). As you are aware, our protocols require in-depth contact tracing which has already commenced by our Head Nurse, School Nurse, and School Administrators. Any staff or students that came into contact with a positive individual are considered direct contacts by CDC guidelines. As such, these individuals will be contacted directly by either our Head Nurse, School Nurse, or one of our School Administrators within the next 24 hours. Direct contacts are required to remain home and quarantine for 14-days. Please also remember, that if you are not contacted, then you are not considered to have been in contact.

Unfortunately, because of the number of students that will have to quarantine for precautionary measures, we (our Head Nurse, CLS Administration, the Naugatuck Valley Health District, the Board Chair, and Central Office) made the difficult decision to close in-person classes at Chatfield-LoPresti School for the next two weeks. Chatfield-LoPresti School will be on full remote learning for all students beginning on Monday, April 26, 2021 and continue through Friday, May 7, 2021. Full in person learning for our students will resume at Chatfield-LoPresti School on Monday, May 10, 2021.

During these two weeks, we will provide daily pick up meals for any Chatfield-LoPresti family that wishes to receive it between the hours of 11:30am and 1:00pm at Chatfield-LoPresti in front of the gym. Additionally, our regular Wednesday lunch pickup will remain the same at Seymour Middle School.

COVID-19 is spread mainly via person-to-person contact through contaminated air droplets from coughing and sneezing by an infected person. As with controlling the spread of other viruses, we urge everyone to discuss the following preventive measures with your children and family members:

- Wash your hands frequently, but especially after using the restroom and before preparing or consuming food. Using soap and hot water, wash for about 20 seconds. Be sure to also wash your fingertips. When soap and water are not available, use hand sanitizer.
- Avoid coughing or sneezing into your hands or in the air. Always try to cough or sneeze into a tissue, then throw the tissue away. If you don't have a tissue, cough/sneeze inside the elbow of your arm.
- As much as you can, avoid touching your eyes, mouth, and nose.
- Wear a face covering (mask) whenever there is a likelihood that you or your family members will be in the presence of others.
- Maintain social distancing (at least 6 feet) between yourself and others when outside of your home.

Below is the list of COVID-19 symptoms for which everyone should monitor in their family members:

- Fever (100.4° Fahrenheit or higher)
- Chills or shaking chills
- Uncontrolled new cough (not due to other known cause, such as chronic cough)
- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- New loss of taste or smell

In addition to the above symptoms, please be aware that sore throat, muscle pain, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea and headache may also be symptoms associated with COVID 19.

For additional information on COVID-19 symptoms, please see:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

Staff and students exhibiting any of the above symptoms, or feeling ill, should call their medical provider to report their symptoms and ask about testing prior to seeking in-person care at a clinic, physician's office, or hospital.

For more information on what to do if you or a family member has possible symptoms, a diagnosis, or exposure to COVID-19, please see *Addendum 5: Interim Guidance for Responding to COVID-19 Scenarios in Connecticut School Districts*, available here:

<https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/COVID19/COVID-19-Resources-for-Families-and-Educators/Addendums-and-FAQs>

We wish a speedy recovery to those individuals who tested positive. We will continue to work as a team with the Naugatuck Valley Health District and will provide any updates that we receive. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact either my Associate Superintendent, Mrs. Vonda Tencza, or me.

Sincerely,

Michael Wilson, Vonda Tencza, Rebecca Bennett, David Olechna, and Stacey Albertson