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DCRSD Update 01.20.2021

Dudley-Charlton Regional School District <notifications@dcrsd.org>

Wed, Jan 20, 2021 at 7:07 PM

To: Dudley-Charlton Regional School District <notifications@dcrsd.org>

All,

I write to share some important developments and the steps we will take moving forward.

Through consultation with our local Health Director and Health Agent it was determined that we have evidence of transmission in the Charlton Elementary School. The identifiable evidence shows transmission amongst adults in the school. We have no evidence of transmission to students. We also consulted with the Division of Epidemiology and Immunization at the Department of Public Health and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to review our findings and next steps.

As a result, we are moving Charlton Elementary School to remote learning tomorrow, Thursday January 21, 2021, and Friday January 22, 2021. Through the efforts of the Charlton Health Director working with Harrington Hospital, starting tomorrow, we are providing free COVID testing for any employee in the Charlton Elementary School. Thank you to Harrington Hospital and Health Director Philbrook.

More information about the remote learning days will be generated from Charlton Elementary School. Additionally, all Charlton Elementary School food distribution for the remainder of this week will be moved to the Heritage School. Again, lunch pickup for Charlton Elementary School families during these remote learning days will take place at Heritage School for the next two days.

We will meet daily with the Health Director and Health Agent to monitor current cases, evidence of transmission, and more forthcoming information with a focus on the current situation at the Charlton Elementary School. Any additional, needed changes will be communicated no later than Sunday, January 24, 2021.

To help us keep COVID out of our schools and prevent transmission, we urge everyone to review the following preventative strategies.

- 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. 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 do not 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 mask.
- Maintain physical distancing.

Lastly, we were informed of two new cases today and contact tracing is complete. Neither case was at Charlton Elementary School. This continues to be a difficult time for all of us. We appreciate your understanding and flexibility. The health, safety and well-being of staff and students is our priority.

Respectfully,

Steven M. Lamarche

Superintendent of Schools