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DCRSD Update 12.08.2020

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

Tue, Dec 8, 2020 at 6:53 PM

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

All,

I am writing to share that we have three new positive COVID-19 cases today in our educational community. Contact tracing has been completed or deemed unnecessary.

If contact tracing was deemed unnecessary it is due to the fact that the educational community member was already home or did not participate in in-person learning within a certain timeframe. I cannot stress enough that these positive cases are through family members or connected to activities outside of school.

With that said, all Dudley-Charlton RSD families should prepare for full remote learning as the number of positive COVID-19 cases in our two towns continues to rise. This will not be an easy decision, but may be necessary.

Today, the Governor of Massachusetts announced a statewide rollback to phase 3, step one effective December 13, 2020.

In addition, the Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services Department of Public Health released new guidance for persons in quarantine. After meeting with our local and internal health team and given the current state of positive COVID-19 spread in our towns, we have made the decision to rollback to prior protocols and hold off on implementing any new guidance. Specifically, if an educational community member is exposed to a confirmed positive COVID-19 case the member will be required to quarantine for 14 days.

In addition, as required by state public health officials, all students enrolled in public schools, hybrid or full remote, are required to receive the FLU vaccine by December 31, 2020. This is not a Dudley-Charlton RSD policy but required by the state of Massachusetts. As with other public health inoculations for public school students, there are religious and medical exemptions. If you chose to exercise an exemption, please write to your student's school nurse as-soon-as-possible. All other students are required to receive the vaccination and may not be permitted to return to school after December 31, 2020. Again, this is not a Dudley-Charlton RSD policy but a state of Massachusetts requirement. Please provide your student's school nurse with a record of vaccination as-soon-as-possible.

Lastly, we appreciate everything everyone continues to do during these times. This email is not intended to put you on edge, but to share the ongoing deliberations, requirements and obligations of your school district. We are very proud to serve you and the students in Dudley and Charlton.

Respectfully,

Steven M. Lamarche

Superintendent of Schools