



BRISTOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

P.O. Box 450 · 129 Church Street
BRISTOL, CT 06011-0450
860-584-7000 · Fax (860) 584-7611

September 16, 2020

Dear Bristol Eastern High School Parents, Guardians, and Staff:

On September 15, 2020, Bristol Public Schools was notified that a member of our school community is presumed to be positive with COVID-19. The affected person has been instructed to remain home and isolate for at least 10 days.

The last day this person was in Bristol Eastern High School was September 15, 2020. We have not received any reports of other students or staff members experiencing symptoms resembling those of COVID-19 that were in this person's cohort. Anyone who is considered a "close contact" with this person has been contacted by the school or local health officials and provided with instructions on the appropriate steps to take.

Out of an abundance of caution, and after consultation with the Bristol Burlington Health District, we have decided to cancel in-person classes at Bristol Eastern High School and move to remote learning for the next two days, September 17, 2020, and September 18, 2020. This change will take effect immediately.

The closure affects all school programming, including before-school and after-school activities, all athletic and extracurricular practices and competitions, and all weekend events.

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 a chronic cough)
- Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- New loss of taste or smell

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. It is recommended to obtain a PCR test.

We are closely monitoring this situation and working with the Bristol Burlington Health District and will provide you with updates as we know more. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Catherine M. Carbone
Superintendent of Schools