

## MCPK Pandemic Response Plan 11.23.20

The MCPK Pandemic Response Plan details how we will respond to presumptive or positive COVID-19 cases within our community and our school building. Each situation we encounter is unique and requires a unique response. We also know that our plan may need to be adapted at any moment depending on changing circumstances and the impact of the virus on our community.

Link to New Jersey Department of Health COVID-19 Public Health Recommendations for Local Health Departments for K-12 Schools:

[https://www.state.nj.us/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/RecommendationsForLocalHealthDepts\\_K12Schools.pdf](https://www.state.nj.us/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/RecommendationsForLocalHealthDepts_K12Schools.pdf)

### Conditions for isolating a group or pod from partner group while Northeast NJ is at HIGH:

- Student or staff member presents with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 during the school day but there is no known contact with a positive case of COVID-19

### Conditions for going to remote learning as a classroom while Northeast NJ is at HIGH:

- Student or staff member presents with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 and has received a presumptive positive diagnosis from a medical professional. The classroom will be remote while we wait for PCR COVID-19 test results.
- A student or staff member has a positive PCR COVID-19 test. All students and staff considered close contacts will be required to quarantine for 14 days.
- Student or staff member reports close contact (within 6 ft for a total of 15 minutes) with a person with positive COVID-19 test results and/or symptoms consistent with COVID-19 if that person has had exposure to a confirmed positive case.

### Conditions for going to remote learning as a whole school:

- Recommended or mandated school and/or child care closure by the state of NJ (Dept. of Health and Governor's Office)
- COVID-19 Activity Level Index (CALI score) for Northeast NJ (Essex County) reaches VERY HIGH (Red-CALI score of 4). At this level, the NJ DOH recommends that all schools go to remote learning. <https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/statistics/covid/index.shtml>  
*\*We are currently at HIGH (CALI score 3). In March 2020, we were at VERY HIGH (4).*
- Evidence of "Community Spread" within the school building (2 or more positive cases in multiple classrooms traced to the same source within 14 days; out of classroom staff member case traced to positive cases in multiple classrooms; staff close contact with positive case across multiple classrooms)

### Communication Plan for November-December Holiday Season:

- We ask that all staff and families **strictly** adhere to travel and indoor group gathering (no more than 10 people) restrictions set forth by the State of NJ. Children and staff members who travel to a restricted state may not return to in-person school for 14 days (as per DCF Exclusion Policy). If you have plans to travel anywhere outside of NJ, please email us at [healthoffice@montclairprek.com](mailto:healthoffice@montclairprek.com) to discuss your return to school plan.
- Adults who travel out of state or attend large group gatherings should consider a period of isolation and testing before their children return to school. Please remember that several states in our area, in which travel is still permitted without quarantine, have very concerning virus numbers.
- We are asking staff and families to be mindful of any contact with people outside of the household or regular "pod" during the holiday season. Maintain social distancing, wear face coverings, practice

regular hand washing and limit indoor gatherings. We are putting our trust in each other. Whether or not we can continue in-person learning through this second wave depends on the choices we each make in the coming weeks.

#### **Post Holiday Quarantining and Virtual Access to MCPK:**

- MCPK will provide **Virtual Access** to every classroom via a Portal device for families that need to quarantine or voluntarily isolate after the Thanksgiving and Winter Holidays. Virtual Access is different from Remote Learning—it allows students to tune into what is happening in the classroom, but does not include any additional daily schedules, videos or take home activities. The intent of Virtual Access is for students to be able to participate in what is happening in the classroom from home, while maintaining a **social emotional connection** with their teachers and peers. Parents will be responsible for setting up access to the Portal from home.
- In order to set up the Portal, teaching teams need to set up a dedicated Facebook page for the classroom and invite parents to join. Parents can use *Facebook* or *What's App* to tune into the classroom. Families do not need to have a portal at home--any smart screen will work.
- There will be one Portal device per classroom, so teachers can set it up on one side or take turns using it on either side of the room.

#### **COVID Testing:**

- As it becomes more difficult to get tested and get test results promptly, we are working with several services to organize regular testing for staff, and potentially families. In the meantime, we ask that staff and families are aware that it is getting increasingly difficult to get prompt testing and to be prepared to wait.
- In order for a test to be accurate, it is recommended that there is a wait period between contact and testing (please consult a medical professional for details).