



November 6, 2020

Dear Erskine Academy Staff, Students, and Families,

Erskine Academy considers the health and well-being of our students, teachers, and staff to be of the utmost importance, which prompts the sending of this letter for your information.

This letter informs you that an individual associated with Erskine Academy recently tested positive for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). Given this person's role and limited contact within the school community, we are confident that exposure to others is minimal and has been contained. **Students and staff identified as a close contact of this person have been informed directly by the school and/or the Maine CDC with additional guidance.**

Therefore, we will continue with our current schedule and educational model of hybrid learning (yellow).

Because there is a slight possibility that other staff or students came in contact with this individual, we are informing you out of an abundance of caution. Please monitor yourself/your student for signs and symptoms. Call a health care provider if symptoms start. Before going to a health care facility for testing or consultation, it is advised that you call the facility ahead of time and follow their instructions.

For your general information, COVID-19 is a respiratory illness that ranges from mild to severe. It can be more severe in adults 60 years and older and in those with underlying conditions. The virus mainly spreads when an infected person coughs or sneezes and an uninfected person breathes in the virus. Signs and symptoms include:

- fever or chills
- cough
- shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- fatigue
- muscle or body aches
- headache
- new loss of taste or smell
- sore throat
- congestion or runny nose
- nausea or vomiting
- diarrhea

Maine CDC recommends measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19. These measures include proper handwashing with soap and warm water, which is especially important after using the bathroom, before eating, and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. When soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60 percent alcohol. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands, and avoid close contact with people who are sick. Cover your cough or sneeze into a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash. Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.

Questions for the school can be directed at School Nurse Tara Oxley by calling (207) 445-2962 or emailing [toxley@erskine247.com](mailto:toxley@erskine247.com). For general COVID-19 questions, dial 211 (or 1-866-811-5695). You can also text your ZIP code to 898-211 or email [info@211maine.org](mailto:info@211maine.org). Call a health care provider for questions about your symptoms. More information can be found at [www.maine.gov/dhhs/coronavirus](http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/coronavirus) or [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus).

Sincerely,

Michael J. McQuarrie  
Headmaster