

PO Box 180 29 School Lane Willsboro, NY 12996

Ph: (518) 963-4456 Fx: (518) 963-7577 **Board of Education** 

Phyllis Klein, President Kasey Young, Vice President Heather Sheehan Emily Phillips Krissy Leerkes Brandy Pierce Nolette, District Clerk

Dear Willsboro CSD School Community,

Today, January 7, 2021, the district has learned that two individuals at Willsboro Central School has tested positive for COVID-19. The two individuals are students that are siblings that were exposed to a positive case during the holiday break and **have not been on campus at WCS since December 22**<sup>nd</sup>.

We are currently working closely with the Essex County Health Department to identify this individual's contacts. Anyone identified as having prolonged, direct exposure will be contacted by the school district and/or the Essex County Health Department and be advised on the need to quarantine and/or be tested. If you do not receive a call, then you have not been identified as having direct, prolonged contact with the positive individual. Due to the fact that the students have not been on campus since before the holiday break, it is expected that there will be few if any other individuals at WCS quarantined from this positive case.

Please note that the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and other privacy laws restrict us from disclosing or confirming any personally identifiable information. We cannot identify anyone who has tested positive or been quarantined.

## It is important to know that:

- All students are required to be screened and have temperature checks completed daily.
- All students and staff are required to wear masks.
- Classroom desks are set up with appropriate social distancing and students have assigned seats.
- Seating assignments and social distancing also occurs on school buses.
- Classrooms, buses, and common areas are disinfected and sanitized daily, as well as between student use.

Please remember that safety is everyone's responsibility and we need to work together to keep everyone safe. Please do not send your child to school sick. If you suspect that you, your child, or someone in your family has been potentially exposed to COVID-19, please contact your personal medical provider.

At this time, in-person classes will continue for all grade levels at WCS. We will continue to work closely with local health officials to monitor community rates in the coming days and weeks.

Anyone with questions about the district's health and safety protocols should contact the district's COVID-19 Resource Officer via email at district@willsborocsd.org.

Any additional questions, including information about quarantines and testing procedures, can be directed to the Essex County health Department at (518) 873-3500.

As always, the health and safety of our students and staff is our top priority and we appreciate your continued support.

Sincerely,

Justin Gardner Superintendent of Schools