

Town of Bedford

97 McMahon Road

Bedfordps.org

COVID-19 Update

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February 1, 2021

- Three (3) new COVID-19 positive cases at Bedford High School (BHS cases #43, #44, & #45), close contacts have been identified.
- There are currently five (5) active COVID-19 positive cases in the BHS Community at this time.
- These cases do not appear to be connected or related to previous cases identified in school.

Dear parents, caregivers, and guardians:

Today I was informed of three (3) new cases of COVID-19 within the Bedford High School Community. All three of these cases are in isolation at home. BHS Case #43 was NOT present in school during the infectious period and investigations revealed that no close contacts were identified within the school community. For BHS Cases #44 and #45, close contacts within the Bedford school community have been identified and instructed to quarantine. Information on close contact identification, contacting tracing and where and when to get tested, can be found in our FAQ.

We remind parents/guardians/caregivers that it is <u>imperative</u> that all Bedford Public School students be evaluated for <u>symptoms of COVID-19</u> each day <u>before</u> sending them off to school. Teachers and school staff are required to do the same self-evaluation for symptoms. These measures, taken in combination, greatly reduce the risk of transmission.

We will continue to be vigilant in adhering to all of the protocols that have been put in place in an effort to continue in person learning via our current hybrid model. We are also providing remote learning for all students required to quarantine at home to continue to provide instruction, structure, and an emotional connection to the classroom during a time that we know will be challenging for those children and families involved.

We are committed to continuous communication with and support of our families. If there is additional transmission as a result of these cases or a separate case, the Bedford Health Department Staff and School Nurses will immediately begin a case investigation to determine close contacts of any cases and conduct appropriate notifications to any impacted school community members so as to initiate proper quarantine. Thank you for your continued support.

Wishing you continued health,

Sincerely,

Philip Conrad Superintendent