

January 12, 2022

**Standard Operating Procedure
Adjustment to Contact Tracing**

Dear Parents,

The Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released an adjustment to the new Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) that our school board adopted on Friday, January 7, 2022.

Schools in Maine that enforce a universal masking policy no longer are required to contact trace. Contact tracing is defined as “the process of identifying and notifying individuals (or their families) who have had close contact with someone infected with COVID-19” (Maine CDC, 1/11/22). The Millinocket School Department enforces a universal masking policy at both Granite Street Elementary School and Stearns Jr/Sr High School.

Effective today Wednesday, January 12, 2022, parents will no longer receive notifications from school staff if their child had close contact with someone infected with COVID-19.

Because of the high rate of COVID-19 in our state, we encourage all parents to consider their child a close contact daily and monitor their children for COVID-19 symptoms which can include fever, 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, and diarrhea.

If your child is experiencing any of these symptoms please keep your child at home and contact the school to arrange for a time for a COVID-19 test. The school department will continue to screen individuals with symptoms using the BinaxNow.

The Millinocket School Department appreciates your attention to your child(s) health as we work to combat the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sincerely,

Dr. Joshua McNaughton
Superintendents of Schools

