



## LOWELL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

***B.F. Butler Middle School***  
***Lowell, MA 01852***  
***(978) 937-8973 or (978) 937-7643***  
***FAX (978) 937-2819***

*Teresa Soares-Pena*  
*Principal*

*Jaime Moody*  
*Assistant Principal*

September 24, 2021

Dear parents, caregivers, guardians, and staff,

I am writing to inform you that a member of our Butler Middle school community has tested positive for COVID. Our first responsibility is to keep our students and staff safe. We are grateful to our families for their continued efforts to keep students home at the first sign of symptoms. These measures, taken in combination, greatly reduce the risk of additional transmission.

We cannot provide specific information about our community member/s who tested positive. However, unless you are notified by the local Health Department, you are not considered a close contact of the affected school community member (defined as being within 3 feet of the infected person for at least 15 minutes over a period of 24 hours). The school community member who tested positive was last in our school community 9/24/2021. Please continue to monitor yourself or your child for symptoms.

Anyone who was in close contact with the community member will be notified privately. All close contacts should be tested but may need to self-quarantine for up to 14 days or otherwise advised by your local health department after the last exposure to the person who tested positive. The quarantine guidelines have been updated and it continues to be important to follow-up with your local health department and your school nurse. We are also following all Department of Health protocols, including collaborating with our local health department to complete contact tracing. Additionally, anyone who's tested for COVID must stay home while waiting for results and report those results to the school nurse. We continue to work hard to understand the impact of the virus on our school community and this information is a critical piece of that puzzle.

To further prevent transmission of the virus to other staff and students, we have sanitized the school with a focus on those areas frequented by the community member/s that tested positive. Another way we are keeping our schools as safe as possible is by offering routine COVID safety checks which involve weekly testing, symptomatic testing and test and stay testing in all of our schools. Please access our [COVID Dashboard](#) or visit: <https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/site/Default.aspx?PageID=4837> at any time to review all COVID related information.

Please consider giving consent to include your child in these safety checks by [clicking here](#) or visit: <https://www.cic-health.com/consent/ma>. If you need to find COVID testing, [click here](#) or visit: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/find-a-covid-19-test> or visit our [COVID Dashboard](#) to find information regarding free COVID testing at Cawley Stadium.

Please contact us immediately should you or someone in your home begin to show symptoms. We are committed to continuous communication with and support of our families. If you have any additional questions or concerns, please contact me, Teresa Soares-Pena at 978 937-8973. If there is additional transmission as a result of this case or a separate case, we will send out another message immediately.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Teresa Soares-Pena, Principal