

# Marcellus Central Schools

2 Reed Parkway  
Marcellus, NY 13108  
(315) 673-6000

Jean Sharlow  
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Instruction,  
Data & Assessment

Michelle L. Brantner  
Superintendent of Schools

Anthony Sonnacchio  
School Business Administrator

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October 18, 2020

Dear Marcellus KCH Parents and Guardians:

As you know, on Friday afternoon the Marcellus School District was made aware that a KCH student has tested positive for COVID-19. We were able to complete all of our internal contact tracing duties by Friday evening and send that information to the Onondaga County Health Department. They will be completing their work over the course of the weekend. On Saturday night, we received the official word from the county regarding members of the staff and student body who would be required to quarantine.

On Sunday morning, we were able to connect with families of all students believed to be in “close contact” with the infected individual to alert them of the required quarantine. Unfortunately, due to some additional information received from the health department, an increased number of students were added to the quarantine list. In the end, a total of eight staff members and 13 students will be under quarantine orders from the Onondaga County Health Department. The affected class will transition effective immediately to remote learning for the period of quarantine.

In addition to following the recommendations of the Onondaga County Health Department, we have already deep cleaned and sanitized the affected classroom and also our KCH school buildings, as we have done each day, in addition to following all safety procedures and protocols.

Due to legal considerations, we cannot provide any additional information to you about the identity of the student who tested positive. We ask that you continue to encourage your children to practice good hand-washing hygiene, wear face masks in the proper manner, and practice social distancing. As we have seen while working through our last case, these measures appear to be keeping the virus from spreading. While it is certainly inconvenient to have to quarantine or to quarantine your child, if we can stay healthy and stop further spread, that is the most important thing.

If you or a family member start to exhibit symptoms of the virus (fever, shortness of breath, vomiting, diarrhea and/or coughing, for example), please do not send them to school. Instead, reach out to your physician and inform your child’s school nurse. If you do not have a physician, you can contact the Upstate Medical hotline at 315-464-3979. If you would like further information on COVID-19, please go to this Onondaga County website, [ongov.net/health](http://ongov.net/health), and click on the COVID-19 link.

I do not anticipate having any additional information to communicate regarding this latest case, but in the event that we do, you will surely hear from us. Until then, please know that our students’ safety is our highest priority. We appreciate your support as we work through this challenging situation together.

Sincerely,

*Michelle L. Brantner*

Michelle L. Brantner  
Superintendent