

Canastota Central School District

120 Roberts Street, Canastota, New York 13032 • 315.697.2025

District Office

Nicholas A. Panuccio
School District Business Leader

Shawn D. Bissetta
Superintendent of Schools



March 27, 2020

Dear Canastota Central School District Community,

We were advised today that a second of our District employees has tested positive for the COVID-19 virus. We have been coordinating with the Madison County Department of Health and they are in contact with anyone who may have been exposed. The Health Department has determined that no students or coworkers were exposed to this person.

The person was not involved in preparing the student meals we are distributing during the closure, so we have been advised by the Health Department that we can continue our food program on its current schedule.

News like this can be received with mixed emotions from our community. Rest assured the safety and health of our students and staff are our top priority. We continue to work to support our students, families, and employees during this difficult time and appreciate your cooperation.

If you have questions regarding the COVID-19 virus, please visit <https://www.madisoncounty.ny.gov/2479/Coronavirus-COVID-19> or call the 24-hour a day Upstate University Hospital triage line at 315-464-3979.

If you or a family member is exhibiting symptoms of the COVID-19 virus (fever, cough, and shortness of breath), please do not go to the emergency room or your healthcare provider without calling first. They will provide you with further guidance.

Please remember that social distancing and good hygiene are our best defenses against the virus. Stay home and do not go out into public unless you have to.

We know this time may be stressful on employees, students and families. If you feel the need to talk to someone, the state has established a new Mental Health hotline at 1-844-863-9314. We encourage you to utilize this and other available resources.

Sincerely,

Shawn Bissetta
Superintendent

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MADISON COUNTY DEPARTMENT *of* HEALTH

Eric Faisst, Director of Public Health

Dr. John B. Endres, President of Board of Health

March 27, 2020

The Madison County Health Department identified a second staff member from the Canastota School District who tested positive for Coronavirus (COVID-19). The Department is working closely with the Canastota CSD.

The Health Department has been in contact with the staff member and is determining who may have been exposed. Those individuals identified as coming in close contact with the positive case will be placed into quarantine. Quarantine is for individuals who have come into close contact with a positive person but are not displaying symptoms of COVID-19 (fever, cough, shortness of breath).

Through our investigation the department determined that no co-workers, nor any students were exposed to this person. The individual is in isolation and our staff are monitoring them daily.

We understand that news like this can be received with mixed emotions from our community. The Health Department continues to work closely with the Canastota CSD to ensure practices and protocols are in place to ensure the continued health and safety of their staff and community.

This virus can impact anyone and because of that we all must remain vigilant. Please remember to practice social distancing, this includes not allowing your children to have play dates at this time. Also, practice good hygiene. These are the best tools we have as a defense against this virus. Remember, you can get it, and you can transmit it. The best defense is limiting the amount of people you are exposed to, if not for yourself then for others. Avoid visits with friends and family, do not hold meetings of any kind unless virtual. Keep six feet of distance from others in public and cancel unnecessary travel plans.

If you are sick or feeling mildly ill, please stay home and monitor your symptoms. Call your primary healthcare provider if you have any questions. If you do not have a healthcare provider, please call the Upstate University Hospital Triage Line at 315-464-3979. Please do not go directly to the Emergency Room or your health care provider without calling ahead. If you develop emergency warning signs (e.g. difficult breathing, persistent chest pain or pressure, new confusion or inability to arouse, bluish lips or face), call 911 and get medical attention immediately.

Stay informed.

For more information about the novel Coronavirus, visit Madison County at <https://www.madisoncounty.ny.gov/2479/Coronavirus-COVID-19>, call the New York State Coronavirus Hotline 1-888-364-3065, and visit CDC at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>.

