

# Kearsarge Regional School District

Superintendent Winfried  
Feneberg

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, Sept. 22, 2020

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## Kearsarge Regional School District Reports Positive COVID-19 Case in Student at Kearsarge Regional Middle School

### All Sixth Grade Students to Participate in Remote at Home Learning

NEW LONDON, N.H. -- Superintendent Winfried Feneberg reports that a student at Kearsarge Regional Middle School has tested positive for COVID-19.

A sixth grade student at Kearsarge Regional Middle School in the 6-1 cluster has tested positive for the virus and is self-quarantining in accordance with New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (NH DHHS) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) protocol.

The student has not been in school since Monday afternoon and the student will be

able to return to school when cleared by DHHS. Under state and federal privacy laws, no further information is available about the student.

**Out of an abundance of caution, all sixth grade students at Kearsarge Regional Middle School will participate in remote at home learning instead of in-person learning until further notice.**

All other grades at Kearsarge Regional Middle School will be permitted to attend in-person learning as the case is isolated to the sixth grade and has no affect on the other grades.

"Out of an abundance of caution, all sixth grade students at Kearsarge Regional Middle School will participate in remote at home learning," Superintendent Feneberg said. "We understand that it is extremely unfortunate to learn about this case and the subsequent switch to remote at home learning for sixth grade, but our district is committed to taking all the appropriate measures to ensure our students' and staffs' health and safety. We will release further guidance once it is provided by the state."

The district is actively working with and following guidelines from the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). The district will be working with DHHS to identify and contact all close contacts of the positive individual. Those who are identified as a close contact (anyone who was within 6 feet of the infected individual up to two days prior to the positive test result) will be contacted by DHHS and required to quarantine for at least two weeks. Specific quarantine plans will be provided to those affected. Those families and staff will be directed to get tested and keep themselves or their children quarantined until 14 days following their last possible exposure. If you do not receive a call from DHHS, this means you have not been identified as a close contact and you are not required to quarantine.

If you or your child are experiencing [symptoms](#) of COVID-19, such as a fever, chills, respiratory illness, aches or change in taste and smell, please stay home and get a COVID-19 test. Testing can be done either through your primary healthcare provider or at [one of the testing sites](#) located throughout the state. Those getting tested should bring this letter with them as well.

Please note that if you or your child are currently quarantined, you must remain in quarantine for 14 days, even if your test is negative. This is due to the fact that symptoms can present up to two weeks after exposure.

In addition, to prevent further spread of the disease in the community, the Kearsarge Regional School District ask that students, families and staff take the following precautions to prevent the spread of the disease:

- **Stay home if you have a fever or are not feeling well.** Students should stay home from school should any new or unexplained illness, no matter how mild, develop. This precaution is meant to keep all staff and students safe.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid close contact with others. When outside your home, please adhere to social distancing guidelines and keep a distance of at least 6 feet between yourself and others.
- Wear a cloth face covering that covers your mouth and nose to protect others when in public areas.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze, then throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.

Children may worry about themselves, their family and friends getting sick with COVID-19. Tips for talking to children about COVID-19 can be found [here](#).

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