



ATHOL-ROYALSTON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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The Athol-Royalston Regional School District is committed to providing challenging educational experiences that inspire students to acquire the knowledge and skills to become responsible citizens in the global community.

August 21, 2020

Darcy Fernandes
Superintendent of Schools

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Administrative Assistant

John Salovardos
Director of Pupil Services

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Pre-K -8 Curriculum
Director

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Athol-Royalston
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Facilities and Transportation

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Dear Teachers, Staff, Students and Parents/Guardians,

As you are most likely aware, in the last few weeks, there have been several cases of COVID-19 at ACES. This letter is to give you an update on the situation and explain how the district is responding. As of today, there are a total of six cases. Five of the cases are cafeteria workers and one case was a teacher. Upon hearing of the first case, the district immediately contacted the Athol Department of Health (DPH) and followed their guidance step by step. The guidance included giving DPH the list of contacts that was requested. The district then contacted each employee to check on their status and ACES was deep cleaned based on DPH recommendations. The district continues to meet with DPH as needed to ensure buildings are safe. DPH and the lead nurse for the district suggested some updates to our reopening plan. The suggestions were incorporated into the document and the revised document was reposted.

The district has hired a COVID-19 Lead administrator who will start Monday to handle any further COVID-19 related issues in buildings. The COVID-19 Lead will also walk schools to ensure that health and safety orders are being followed.

As for the HVAC systems, two schools have been evaluated and the rest will be before students start school. The district has already hired the vendor to fix the HVAC system at the high school.

School for all students will start on September 14, 2020 remotely. Students who have selected in-person learning will begin with a one-day session in school on September 28, 2020. Individual schools will be contacting families to let them know. Starting on October 5, 2020 all students who have selected in-person learning will begin their first week of full in-school classes.

Sincerely,
Darcy Fernandes
Superintendent
Athol-Royalston Regional School District