



# Marshfield Public Schools

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January 26, 2021

Dear MPD Students, Families and Staff,

Good evening. We write to inform you that we will have to pause hybrid learning at the **Eames Way School (EWS)** and shift all students and staff to full remote learning.

In the last three days, we have seen five new covid-19 cases at the EWS. As of today's most recent case, we have now had to quarantine or isolate 36 students (approximately 20% of all students at the EWS). At the same time, we have also had to quarantine or isolate just over 30% of all staff, including 6 of the 12 classroom teachers. After conferring with the EWS leadership team and our nursing team, it is evident that we do not have the necessary staffing to safely keep the building open and adequately educate our students in the hybrid model. As a result, the EWS will be closed for in-person instruction from Thursday, January 28 through Friday, February 5th and will follow the full remote learning model. If all goes well, we will resume in the hybrid model on Monday, February 8th. We will revisit this decision during the week of February 1st. (Please Note that the building itself will remain open during this period of remote instruction).

As we have previously noted, there have only been three covid cases (1.3% of all cases) that were determined to be transmitted within the schools. As of right now, we are closely monitoring the details of these current incidents to determine the source of the transmission. Beyond assessing this matter with our district nursing team, School Physician and the Marshfield Board of Health, we have been in communication with the DPH and DESE today and based on the most recent information, they are in concurrence with our decision to move to remote at the EWS. We also had communication with the Commissioner of Education, Jeffrey Riley, and he agreed with the steps we are taking at the EWS. Due to the number of cases, we are also working with the state to see if we would also qualify for their mobile testing unit. If so, we will share that information out as soon as possible.

We are hopeful that no other schools will need to move to full remote, but we will not hesitate to do so if the data points us in that direction. We will continue to work diligently to ensure our schools adhere to all

covid-related protocols and practices as outlined by the DPH and DESE. Still, no school can combat this situation alone. We urge our parents/guardians to continue their efforts as partners in this fight against COVID 19, and we need your help and unwavering support in reinforcing the DPH safety guidelines, at home and at school.

As we continue to work towards bringing our schools back to full in-person instruction, It is incumbent upon all of us to be vigilant. The need for socialization is real, but the need for safe behaviors is critical. Please continue to urge your children to wear a mask when they are out in public -- even for recreational outdoor activities, as well as reinforcing appropriate social distancing and hand sanitizing.

All of us -- educators, support staff, students, and families -- want the Marshfield Public Schools to be a safe place for young people to learn, thrive, and grow. Thank you for your understanding, cooperation, and continued support of our efforts to keep our MPSD community safe and healthy. Each of us has a role in this endeavor. We are grateful for your partnership to ensure the safe continuation of our in-person learning.

We are committed to continuous communication with and support of our families and staff. If you have any additional covid-related questions or concerns, please contact our Nurse Director, Ms. Jane Landry, at [jlandry@mpsd.org](mailto:jlandry@mpsd.org) or 781.319.3814

Sincerely,

Jeffrey W. Granatino

William J. Campia

Jane Landry

Superintendent

EWS Principal

District Nurse Director