



# Regional School Unit No. 18

Phone: 207.465.7384

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41 Heath St. Oakland, ME 04963

Carl Gartley  
Superintendent

Keith Morin  
Asst. Superintendent

Melannie Keister  
Director of Business / Finance

Staff, Parents, Students and Community Members,

This week we put the summer of 21 officially behind us and welcomed fall in Maine. It is a beautiful time of year, and the leaves are already starting to offer some great scenery for us to enjoy. Maybe it is the change of seasons, or maybe it has something to do with a couple of chilly nights we have had, but this past week I started to get the inevitable question....” What are we going to do this year with snow days?” First, I still hope that our students can enjoy a few more summer days before we break out the shovels to clear snow, but yes, winter is coming. This year I hope to take advantage of the new option of remote learning for at least some of our snow days. There are still several details to work out, but ideally when the snowstorms are predictable and we can plan ahead, we may utilize a remote learning as an option.

Details that need to be worked out:

1. Which grades will do online learning vs remote learning pre prepared packets?
2. For the online learning classes, what will the hours of school be? We know everyone needs time to clean their driveways. There likely will be a reduced schedule for online learning on these days.
3. How will we provide lunches? Deliver? Pick up the night before? Send home the day before? Allow pick up of frozen meals to prepare for a remote day? This plan will need to be approved by the state, so more to come on this.
4. How can we make sure we support our students who need extra help?

No matter how we do it this year, it will be a work in progress. Also note, I am saying we will do this for some of the snow days. In Maine, as you all know, weather is unpredictable. We have all experienced times when we went to bed after hearing a dusting of snow and woke up to see the driveway buried. So, it is possible some snow days will be good ol fashion surprise snowstorms. That is ok too.

Now a COVID update. Below you will see two charts. The first attempts to answer some of the questions I received this week about quarantines. It is hard to answer all questions in these messages so if you have more about this topic, please feel free to email me at [cgartley@rsu18.org](mailto:cgartley@rsu18.org). I will get back to you. The second chart I am sharing so we can continue to be transparent and make sure everyone knows how things are going in our schools this year with COVID. This chart gives you the number of positive cases that have been in our schools this year. This does not count positive cases of students or staff who have not been in our schools. Just the cases that have been in schools. I also included data about the number of people who have had to quarantine and those who have avoided quarantine.

Have a great week  
Carl Gartley  
Superintendent of Schools



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## Protocol for a student who is a close contact:

If the student is fully Vaccinated	No Quarantine required
If the student had been previously positive within the last 90 days and is no longer infectious	No Quarantine required
Any other situation where a student is a close contact:	<p>If the exposure took place in the classroom or other area where we are requiring masks there is no quarantine required during school. Outside of school the student must quarantine for 10 days.</p> <p>If the exposure took place outside of school or during lunch or other times when the masks are not required, then the student must quarantine for 10 days.</p>

Number of occurrences of a positive person being in our schools. (As of 9/25/21)

\*\* This does not count students who were positive but were never at school.

School	# of positive cases we have had in this school. Each of these cases was the result of a person who is positive being in the school.	# of students who have had to quarantine as a result of these cases	# of students who have not had to quarantine from these cases as a result of masks, vaccinations or previous case
Atwood	3	1	7
Belgrade	1	0	3
China Middle	1	0	2
China Primary	3	10	5
James H. Bean	1	7	1
Messalonskee High	8	9	86
Messalonskee Middle	2	2	9
Williams	1	2	2
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>115</b>