



November 5, 2020

RE: School Community Member Tested Positive for COVID-19

Dear Families,

A member of the Okanagan Mission Secondary School community has tested positive for COVID-19. They are self-isolating at home with support from local public health teams.

There does not appear to be a relation between the case announced November 4 and this case. The individual was present on the school campus on November 2. They did not have any symptoms at that time; they became sick following school activities and sought testing immediately. They followed the school safety protocols. To protect the privacy of the individual affected, we will not be providing any additional details.

We are supporting Interior Health as they undertake contact tracing to determine if any other members of our school community were in contact with the person who tested positive for COVID-19, and if any additional steps are required. We are following the protocol established for these circumstances:

- The health authority is performing contact tracing;
- The health authority will determine if anyone in the school community was in contact with the person who tested positive for COVID-19 while they were potentially infectious;
- The health authority will determine if anyone in the school community is a close contact that is required to self-isolate.

Only the health authority can determine who is a close contact. If you are contacted by Interior Health, please follow their advice.

If you are not contacted by Interior Health, you can continue to attend school. Interior Health is recommending that all students and staff remain vigilant in monitoring for symptoms for COVID-19. Testing is encouraged for anyone who develops symptoms. Please continue to follow the school's COVID-19 safety measures such as wearing masks when physical distancing cannot be achieved, and exercise proper hand hygiene. BC COVID-19 Assessment Tool: <https://bc.thrive.health/covid19>

The safety and well-being of our students, families and staff remains our highest priority. Please be reassured that Okanagan Mission Secondary School will continue to implement the strict protocols and procedures we have in place so that children can continue to attend school as safely as possible.

Students should continue to come to school while contact tracing is underway. We will continue to work closely with Interior Health to provide ongoing communication as required.

If you have questions or concerns about COVID-19, please call 811. We will continue to work closely with Interior Health to provide ongoing communication as required.

Sincerely,

Kevin Kaardal
Superintendent of Schools/CEO