

Orange East Supervisory Union

Serving the towns of Bradford, Corinth, Groton, Newbury, Ryegate,
Thetford, Topsham, and Wells River

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November 12, 2020

Dear Waits River School Community:

This morning, we learned about several (more than 8) Waits River School community members in Corinth, Topsham, and Barre who have either tested positive for COVID 19, have symptoms and are awaiting tests, or have been close contacts of those who tested positive and are awaiting test results. We also learned about a positive case at a partner pre-school. Please note that no WRVS staff or students have tested positive at this time, but we feel that positive tests may be coming soon. After consultation with medical personnel, Carlotta Simonds-Perantoni, and nursing staff in multiple locations, we have made the difficult decision to move Waits River to remote learning on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday (November 16-18) of next week. We will update the school community on next steps, as new information becomes available. We will decide by Tuesday whether or not we are returning to in person instruction on Thursday the 19th. It is our hope to return to in person instruction as soon as we are able.

We recommend that you act to help limit the spread of COVID-19, even if your child is not experiencing symptoms.

I recognize that this situation is scary. Time and time again this community comes together in moments of hardship to support everyone's well-being. We need to continue to be vigilant in our safety precautions--always wear a mask, keep a safe distance from others, keep kids home when they have any symptoms, limit social interactions and travel, and wash your hands often. We will continue to pass along information as we can, while also maintaining the privacy of our community members.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me at emilie.knisley@oesu.org or carlotta.simonds-perantoni@oesu.org.

Many thanks,

Emilie Knisley
Superintendent of Schools