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November 2, 2020

Dear Monhagen Middle School School Community,

This morning we were made aware of a Monhagen Middle School staff member who has tested positive for COVID-19. **October 27, 2020 was the last date this individual was present at the school.**

Based on contact tracing conducted by the OCDOH assisted by the school district, it determined the cluster is isolated to the locations where the staff member was present on October 27, 2020. **Pursuant to privacy guidelines, no additional identifying information can be shared.** Following our safety and cleaning protocols, all areas of the school have been cleaned multiple times since the last time the positive individual was on our campus. Again, all locations at Monhagen Middle School continue to be thoroughly disinfected and sanitized daily.

All individuals who were present on the Monhagen Middle School campus need to be especially aware of any symptoms they have related to COVID-19. Based on the science of the disease, it can take up to two weeks to have the infection become evident and for someone infected to exhibit symptoms.

In accordance with our reopening plan, we have been collaborating with the Orange County Department of Health as we navigate the processes associated with a positive COVID-19 case. **Through these contact tracing processes, the District/Department of Health will notify those who are identified as being a close contact and will issue quarantine orders as applicable. If you have not been contacted by the District/Department of Health, you have not been in close contact with the individual who tested positive for COVID-19.**

As always, the health and safety of our students and staff is our top priority. Therefore, any individuals who are directed to quarantine will only be allowed to return to school when released to do so by the Orange County Department of Health and/or their health care provider. If we continue to practice proper hand hygiene, physical distancing and universal wearing of face coverings, we will minimize risk of spread and exposure. Safeguarding the health and safety of our schools and their programs starts with everyone. Please continue to practice these safety precautions with fidelity so, as in this case, we reduce the chance of infection to others.

We share this information with you as part of our ongoing efforts to keep our school community informed of any issues of concern. Please know, however, we must also be careful to respect the laws relating to the privacy of our students and staff so we cannot provide any more details or comments. Thank you for your understanding and consideration with this matter.

Respectfully,  
*Richard Del Moro*, Superintendent of Schools