



# September 16, 2020

## NPS Community Update

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Dear Newport Public School Families,

We are excited for everyone to be back to school. It is so nice to see the faces of our students and staff whether it is In Person Learning or Distance Learning. For those that may not have seen our earlier communication, today at Pell Elementary School there was a student identified as probable. In addition, we were notified of a probable case with a TMS staff member later this afternoon. Both the student and staff member were sent home and will follow up with a rapid test. The Building Principals have informed their staff and community. It is important to note these are probable cases and out of abundance of caution following RIDOH guidance the student and staff member will be tested and we will keep you informed of future updates.

To further support school communities and families, the Governor's office issued a special hotline for educators/students/families and testing processes that are now in place on the COVID-19 Testing for K-12 Students and Staff website: <https://health.ri.gov/covid/testing/k-12/>. The testing site for Newport is CCRI parking lot on Coddington Highway. This, other sites like this will be dedicated testing for our public and nonpublic PreK-12 schools. This website gives an overview of when to get a test, what happens on the day of the test, and the locations of the K-12 testing sites. There is also a [toolkit](#) from the Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) intended to serve as a helpful resource for you.

Please remember to complete, or have your child complete, their daily COVID check before coming into school each day to help ensure everyone is safe. All technology issues and requests should be reported via email to [helpdesk@npsri.net](mailto:helpdesk@npsri.net) for assistance or you may call 1-800-253-7122. Families that have signed up for transportation should have received a schedule for their child(ren) from your child's school or will in the coming days. We ask for your continued patience during the first few weeks as buses may be running a few minutes late. It is important for children to be at their stop 10 minutes before their scheduled pickup time.

We are one district – One Newport – and will support your efforts whether students are learning in-person or virtually. As always, the health and safety of our students and staff guide every decision and is our number one priority. Remember to wear your mask, wash your hands often, and practice social distancing. We will update you as we receive further information.

Stay safe!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colleen Burns Jermain', with a date '10' written below it.

Colleen Burns Jermain, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Newport Public Schools