

February 16, 2021

Dear Manhasset Families,

Earlier today, we were notified by the Nassau County Department of Health with regard to reported parties/gatherings attended by our Secondary School students within the past ten days. These parties/gatherings have become super spreader events that have resulted in an alarming increase in the number of positive COVID-19 cases throughout the community.

As of this writing, there have been at least 38 reported student positive cases resulting in the Nassau County Department of Health's recommendation that the ***Manhasset Secondary School be placed on a fully-remote schedule the week of February 22 through at least February 26.*** In addition, effective immediately all extracurricular activities at the Secondary School, including all athletics, will be suspended through at least February 26. We will continue to monitor the positive cases to determine if there is an impact at our elementary level.

Please note that all identified cases are in isolation and their close contacts have been quarantined by the Department of Health. Many of the students who have tested positive have been asymptomatic causing a false sense of security. If your child attended a party/gathering, or has been in contact with someone who attended a party/gathering over the past ten days, it is ***imperative*** that you contact your health care provider regarding testing and that they quarantine immediately – so as to limit the spread of COVID-19.

These disconcerting actions by members of our community continue to put our entire school community at risk and cause a heightened sense of fear and anxiety. As we have communicated in the past, events like these impact the entire community resulting in potentially serious illness for students, their families, and our faculty and staff. In addition to the suspension of onsite learning, as well as the cancelation of athletic events and extracurricular activities at the Secondary School, these actions necessitate that we pause discussions regarding returning more students to full-time learning until we can assess the exponential impact of these actions.

Our efforts to limit the spread of COVID-19 will only be successful if we all do our part and follow established protocols. We are closing the Secondary School with the intention of slowing the spread of COVID-19 in our school community. During this time, we stress the importance of limiting contacts you and your children have with others outside of your household,

Please note that if you or your child(ren) receive positive test results for COVID-19 during this winter school recess, please contact the Nassau County Department of Health at 516-227-9570 and send an email to Allison Rushforth at [allison\\_rushforth@manhassetsschools.org](mailto:allison_rushforth@manhassetsschools.org).

The District will have testing available to any student who wants to be tested in our Secondary School gymnasium on Sunday, February 21 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. If you are interested in testing your child at our school please [register](#) him/her in advance.

Sincerely,

Dr. Vincent Butera

Superintendent of Schools