

REDBANK VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT



920 BROAD STREET
NEW BETHLEHEM, PA 16242
TELEPHONE 814-275-2426
FAX 814-275-2428
www.redbankvalley.net



November 6, 2020

Parents/Guardians:

This memo is intended to update you on the status of Redbank Valley School District and provide you with facts.

In order to prepare for the unforeseen future, the district is preparing. At this time, there is no intention to go to 'remote instruction' district-wide for all students. However, we must be prepared to do so if the cases increase to a point that 'remote instruction' is required to maintain the health and safety of our students and staff. You will receive a survey as we move forward in our preparations.

Secondly, the district works very closely with the Department of Health when presented with symptomatic students/staff members and with probable/positive cases. The Department of Health recommendations provide steps that should be followed regarding notifications, isolation, quarantine, contact-tracing and testing.

Redbank Valley reports one high school student has tested positive recently. The student has not been in school and according to protocol provided by the Department of Health, no further steps were recommended to address this issue.

On Monday, November 2, the student was not in school and this was the first day the student experienced symptoms. The look back period is 48 hours from the time symptoms arise. Protocol takes us back to Saturday, therefore, the process for the district to contact-trace and make notification to others was not recommended.

The main goal is to maintain the health and well-being of our students, staff and community. It is important that information does not create a situation of hysteria.

Had this student situation expanded beyond the scope of his family based on facts and discussion with the Department of Health the district would have made contact with all affected and made public notice.

The district appreciates your patience and support as we navigate a continuously changing environment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John R. Mastillo".

Dr. John Mastillo
Superintendent