

# Shrewsbury Borough School

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Shrewsbury, New Jersey 07702

Brent A. MacConnell  
Superintendent

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November 6, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians:

In consultation with and at the recommendation of the Monmouth County Regional Health Commission #1, the Shrewsbury Borough School will be closed Monday, November 9, 2020 to Friday, November 13, 2020 for in-person instruction but will continue to provide virtual instruction for all of our students. We are taking this step out of an abundance of caution and concern for the safety and health of everyone in our school community and we will continue to assess our current situation and take all of the recommended and appropriate actions necessary to keep everyone safe.

**It is important for you to understand that, to date, we have not had a single case of COVID-19 transmission in the Shrewsbury Borough School.** The MCRHC#1 has determined that recent instances of COVID-19 transmission are representative of “community spread” unrelated to the operation of the school. In other words, no COVID-19 positive students in our school community have transmitted COVID-19 to any other students or employees at SBS based on the current timelines for transmission. Please note that current guidance indicates that an individual can be contagious with COVID-19 for up to 48 hours before symptoms emerge. This also confirms that all of our procedures and precautions at the school are an important part of preventing transmission and we will continue to emphasize wearing masks, utilizing barriers, practicing social distancing to the greatest degree possible, washing and sanitizing hands frequently, and deep cleaning our building on a regular basis.

Specific notifications to families will be made whenever any of our students have tested positive for COVID-19 but not in the case where students have merely had contact with someone that is positive for COVID-19. Specific notifications to families will be made whenever transmission has occurred at SBS or during the school day. In cases where a student has had close contact or some other type of contact, the school will work with the Monmouth County Health Commission #1 to determine the appropriate course of action. The action generally involves a recommendation to have that student and siblings quarantine, test for COVID-19, and monitor their symptoms for 14 days.

**Please take time to sign up with CivicReady, our emergency notification system.** There is an updated link on our website that will take you to the Shrewsbury Borough website and CivicReady landing page. You will need to validate your account through your email address to establish a password. Here is the link to [CivicReady](#). We are no longer using the Two River Alert system so you will not receive notifications from that emergency notification system.

This most recent incident in our local community demonstrates how important it is to remain disciplined and vigilant. If anyone in your family or close circle is symptomatic or tests positive for COVID-19, you should contact the school immediately. While we can't mitigate every possible risk that we face, we can take actions quickly that prevent further transmission and exposure for everyone. If we truly value in-person instruction for all of our students, we must all do our part to keep everyone healthy and safe here and at home. Otherwise, our children will continue to experience disruptions in their ability to enjoy and benefit from in-person learning on a consistent basis at the Shrewsbury Borough School.

Very sincerely,

*Brent A. MacConnell*

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