



Thursday, November 19, 2020

Dear BMS Families,

As we prepare to enter our extended fall break and anticipate the Thanksgiving holiday, I want to continue being transparent and share a few important updates with you.

While continuing to navigate COVID-19 concerns and connections on a daily basis, it has come to our attention that a high school teacher and several high school students have recently tested positive. Through ongoing collaborating with the PA Department of Health, it is apparent that due to the mobility of high school students and teachers each day, there are some possible exposures that the DOH will be helping to follow-up on as we transition into the Thanksgiving break. Masking, spacing, and timing are all factors to be considered. We wanted to make you aware of this so you are not taken off-guard should you receive a call from the DOH in an effort to offer guidance and support our efforts to respond proactively.

Over the break, please make a focused effort with us to be responsible and use caution with any gatherings considering the season we are in and the increasing number of positive cases and possible exposures within our school community and surrounding area. While we have been blessed to have a low number of positive cases among our smaller population at BMS and a variety of quarantine types that have been managed safely, we are hitting a point where we need to see things calm down over the holiday break. Join us in praying that this can be a time of rest and refreshment for everyone!

We will continue to monitor and evaluate cases throughout our school community during Thanksgiving break. If anyone in your family is exposed, becomes symptomatic, or tests positive at any point during our break, please communicate accordingly with me ([wilsonnj@bmsprek12.org](mailto:wilsonnj@bmsprek12.org)). While I look forward to this special time with my own family, you can expect a response to any emails beginning on Monday, November 30, at which point you will also receive additional communication regarding our start of school on Wednesday, December 2. I will also be in the office tomorrow, November 20 and Monday, November 23.

**Remember, our extended fall break is: Friday, November 20 - Tuesday, December 1**

Blessings and Peace,

Nicholas J. Wilson  
Superintendent  
Secondary Principal  
Belleville Mennonite School