

GRAND ISLE SUPERVISORY UNION

CURIOUS | CREATIVE | COURAGEOUS | CAPABLE

802-372-6921 • P.O. BOX 54, GRAND ISLE, VT 05458 • WWW.GISU.ORG

1 December 2021

Dear Parents, Guardians & Community members,

I hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving break. The GISU ended up contact-tracing three different confirmed positive Covid-19 cases over the break from exposures which happened the Friday before break and at after school care on the Monday of the break. This brings the total number of cases that GISU has had to contact-trace to ten. Case counts are higher than they have been at any other point in the pandemic. By following the steps below you can help us keep Covid out of the schools - this will let us keep in person learning going strong.

1. If you are eligible and can [get vaccinated](#) ASAP.
2. Stay Home and Keep your Children Home if they are sick or have [symptoms of COVID-19](#) infection.
3. Wear a mask when in public. The viral load is high all around us - masks help slow the spread.
4. Practice social distancing when possible.
5. Use good hand hygiene strategies. Wash and sanitize frequently.
6. If you are concerned you might be infected, [get a test](#). They are free.

I do ask everyone to please be kind if we do have to call either because your child is showing symptoms at school or if we have to make close contact calls. We understand how complicated getting that call can be. We are all feeling stretched to our limit and still we are all hanging on together.

I'm pleased to share that the GISU has received a small supply of Take Home PCR tests. These tests can be used in one-off situations where you need to test your child to see if they might have Covid-19. The collection protocol is very straightforward and families just need to make arrangements with UPS to pick up the sample on the day it is collected so it can be delivered to the testing facility. Both the sample collection kit and the shipping have been paid for by the Vermont Agency of Education. If you need a kit you can contact the GISU Parent Liaison, David Mills, at 802 372-6921 ext 2008 to make arrangements to pick up the kit.

Community Meeting on December 1, 2021

The access to the Superintendent's weekly Community Meeting is available below. I will talk about high case counts and the new Take Home Test Kits. As always, questions are welcome!

Wednesday, **December 1, 2021**, 6:00 p.m

[Join with Google Meet](https://meet.google.com/yzd-szwo-tqi) meet.google.com/yzd-szwo-tqi

[Join by phone](tel:+15733493062) (US) +1 573-349-3062 PIN: 810 989 343#

Thank you for helping to ensure that all members of the GISU learning community are curious, creative, courageous, and capable of pursuing their aspirations in a diverse and ever changing world.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Clark

Grand Isle Supervisory Union
Superintendent