November 15, 2020

Dear Lamoille North Families and Staff,

Tonight we were informed that we have a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the Cambridge Elementary School community. The school teams and the Vermont Department of Health (VTDOH) are meeting tomorrow to determine next steps. All staff and students at Cambridge Elementary School will move to full remote learning for 48 hours so that thorough investigation can be conducted and deep cleaning of the building can occur. All individuals who have been asked to quarantine have been notified by the school.

We continue to receive pressure from the state officials to keep our schools open for in-person instruction, but my concern over this is growing. We now have four of our schools impacted by COVID-19: GMTCC, Lamoille Union Middle School, Waterville Elementary School and Cambridge Elementary School. At my urging, we are meeting tomorrow and Tuesday with representatives of the Agency of Education (AOE), VTDOH and our administration to determine next steps, not only for the affected schools, but for our entire Supervisory Union.

We know from the VTDOH that the majority of all cases of COVID-19 are the result of community transmission and that appears to be true in the cases in our schools. If cases continue to present in the Lamoille North communities, we may find ourselves in a situation where a possible response to this would be to move to full remote instruction for a period of time. I will keep you apprised of our meetings with state agencies as information and recommendations unfold.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we work collaboratively with our state partners to make the best decisions for our students and staff. Thank you for working with all of us through the challenges and opportunities that this year is indeed bringing to us all.

As always, please reach out to me with any thoughts or questions. Until the next writing, I extend to you my very best.

Warmly,

Catherine Gallagher, M.Ed.
Superintendent of Schools
Lamoille North Supervisory Union