



October 30, 2020

Dear Rivermont Families and Friends,

I'm writing with excellent news. This morning we received the last tests back from our boarding students, and they were all negative! Contact tracing has determined that the one student who had COVID caught it while at a local coffee shop. Our quick and thorough response, although inconvenient, had the desired effect of effectively stopping further spread in its tracks. **9-12th grade classes will resume, in person, on Monday, November 2.** The upper school student who tested positive and those identified as "close contacts" remain in quarantine for the full 14 days, returning November 6. Of course, please stay tuned because things can change quickly.

If you'll recall, there was a positive case in middle school two weeks ago. It arose from a similar situation, wherein the student contracted it off-campus. There was potential exposure for one-and-a-half days before the student left campus for testing. Our comprehensive policies, strict systems, and preventative measures are working. I hope this affirms your trust in our systems and **reinforces each family's need to conduct themselves carefully while off-campus.** We cannot become lax in our precautions, particularly as COVID rates skyrocket in our region.

As the weather turns and outdoor gatherings become difficult, we'll need to redouble our efforts. It is the day to day off-campus activities that are, by far, the most dangerous. Please remember this and take every precaution, avoiding restaurants, athletic events, movies, large groups, etc. We cannot overstate how important it is that our individual off-campus choices have the power to impact our entire community.

If you are going trick or treating, please wear a protective mask under your scary mask, avoid multi-touch surfaces (including candy wrappers) until they've been sanitized, keep distance, and wash those hands! The only scare we want this Halloween is from Rivermont's ghosts and goblins.

Boo!
Max