



Press Release: Friday, January 14, 2022

UPDATE Regarding GFPS School Closure:

Great Falls Public Schools has been monitoring the spread of COVID-19 all week. This morning information was reviewed by the District Administration regarding the current number of COVID-19 infected students and staff, which is over 250 infections. That is the highest number of infections that we have experienced since COVID-19 hit our community in the winter of 2020. As a School District, we are once again faced with making decisions based on the best available data we have at the time. The District Leadership appreciates the adaptability and flexibility of our staff, students, parents and community partners. Currently, we are analyzing the infection and isolation rates of our staff to determine whether we will have adequate staffing to reopen schools safely on Tuesday, January 18th. Due to the ever-changing dynamics of this current COVID-19 Variant, it is apparent that we need to wait until Sunday afternoon, when we will look at the updated employee data to make an informed decision about school reopening.

On Sunday, January 16, 2022 at 5:00 PM GFPS will hold a Face Book Live session to update the community on the status of School Closures for the upcoming week. In addition, the District will put out an updated press release at that time.

Please check our website at <https://www.gfps.k12.mt.us/> and the GFPS Face Book page for updates and information on Rapid Test clinics and Vaccine clinics.

Students, with parent consent, and staff can access rapid tests at most schools and at the Community drive-through testing center at the Fair Grounds. <https://www.alluvionhealth.org/covid-19/>

Parents, staff and students are reminded to monitor your health and wellbeing each day. If you are feeling sick and/or exhibiting any flu-like symptoms, please stay home and contact your health care provider. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this memo, please contact your school administrator.