

Faculty member of Greater New Bedford Voc-Tech tests positive for COVID-19

Yesterday, the day after Gomes Elementary school reported a staff member testing positive for COVID-19, Greater New Bedford Voc-Tech reported one of their staff member tested positive. The following letter was sent out by James L. O'Brien, the Superintendent-Director Greater New Bedford Voc-Tech:

"Dear Parents,

I am writing to inform you that a member of the faculty at Greater New Bedford Voc-Tech tested positive for COVID 19 and is now home self-isolating.

This individual did not have contact with any students. However, several co-workers who have been in close contact with the infected employee are now also self-isolating as well and will be tested for COVID-19, we anticipate having the results of those tests tomorrow. Those co-workers have not shown any symptoms of COVID-19 at this time. However, based on the results of COVID-19 testing anticipated tomorrow, we may need to take other steps to isolate this situation.

Protocols from the Centers for Disease Control, the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Department of Health are guiding our response to this situation, and we will continue to rely on that guidance throughout this pandemic.

I will continue to update you as developments warrant with regard to this situation and how they may impact your child, if at all. Please be assured that the health and safety of our students, faculty, and staff is our number one priority. This

school year is going to be one where we are faced with continuing challenges as a result of COVID-19, and we will be required to respond to those challenges with little warning.

This may be the first incident, but may well not be the last and I thank you all for your support of our school, each other and for your patience.”

Regards,

James L. O'Brien

Superintendent-Director