

Dear Families and Staff,

Thank you for your partnership as we continue to navigate the impact of COVID-19 on our community.

**We have been notified of a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the K2 room at our Methuen school. We have contacted the Methuen Department of Public Health (DPH), and DPH has confirmed that our K2 room will remain closed through Friday, November 27<sup>th</sup> – reopening on Monday, November 30<sup>th</sup>. Any enrolled child who has a sibling in our K2 room will also need to remain out of school beginning today and asked to remain out of care until the K2 room reopens.**

***Information & Confidentiality***

The information that we can share is that an individual with regular access to the inside of our school has tested positive for COVID-19. This individual was last at school on Thursday, November 12, 2020. We were notified of the confirmed case this morning. We recognize that protecting confidentiality can create an atmosphere of ambiguity and we share your concerns for everyone.

***Next Steps for Little Sprouts***

We take COVID-19 very seriously and fully appreciate any concerns you may be experiencing. During this closure of our K2 room, we will undergo a deep clean and remain in contact with local health officials. **Again, per the Methuen Department of Public Health our K2 room will remain closed until Monday, November 30.**

***Next Steps for Your Family***

We urge you to contact your regular health care provider to inquire about next steps for you and your loved ones. You can also access all of Massachusetts's most updated information regarding COVID-19 testing easily online at <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/about-covid-19-testing>.

For those members of our school community who will be out of school during this COVID safety closure: **should you undergo COVID testing while out, we ask that you please share any findings of confirmed cases with us.** While we will continue to uphold confidentiality, we are also working hard to collaborate with local health officials and abide by all state health guidelines, which include sharing notice of confirmed cases within our school.

If you'd like copies of our COVID-informed payment, closure, and/or sick policies, please reach out to your director. We will be sending another letter soon, once we have received further guidance from the Methuen Department of Health. Thank you for your continued partnership.

Sincerely,

*Melissa*

Melissa Leger, President, Little Sprouts