



KETCHIKAN EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT



JOINT EOC – KGBSD COVID-19 MEDIA RELEASE: ADDITIONAL CASES | KAYHI CLOSURE | ONGOING CONTACT INVESTIGATIONS

Date: April 28, 2021
From: Ketchikan Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
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For Immediate Release

There are two new cases of COVID-19 reported in Ketchikan today. One of the cases remains under investigation, and one of the cases is a close contact to a known positive case, further described below.

Case Associated with Ketchikan High School

There is an additional positive case of COVID-19 associated with the Ketchikan High School today. This new case appears to be connected to a cluster of other recent cases. Due to the complexity of the contact-tracing associated with this cluster, **Ketchikan High School will be closed Thursday and Friday, April 29 and April 30.** This is to provide adequate time for Public Health to trace these positive cases and work to stop the spread.

Associated with this cluster of positive cases is an exposure that occurred on April 22nd at the Gateway Recreation Center.

Public Health, District Nursing Staff, Gateway Recreation Center Staff, and other entities are working together to identify close contacts to this cluster of positive cases, and will reach out to anyone identified as a close contact and instruct them to quarantine and seek testing as appropriate.

EOC Urges Cooperation with Public Health and Representatives of Public Health

We strongly urge parents, students, and anyone who receives a call from Public Health, District Nursing staff, or a representative calling on behalf of Public Health, to cooperate with the Public Health directives for quarantine and testing. By working together to follow the mitigation guidelines, we can stop this spread and resume school and activities.

These strategies, in addition to getting vaccinated, will help the District be able to finish out the school year with as much on-site learning and activities as possible.

Ketchikan High School Closure and Remote Learning Information

Ketchikan High School will continue to be closed Thursday, April 29 and Friday April 30, with remote learning schedule in place. District staff has sent a letter with additional information to Kayhi families. Parents and students are reminded to log into the remote learning system and contact teachers for assistance.

All school-related activities, practices, and after-school events are cancelled through May 1st. Ketchikan High School is tentatively scheduled to reopen on Monday, May 3rd subject to the

results of the pending contact investigations. An update on the status of the school opening will be provided on Friday April 30th.

Public Health and the EOC recommend that anyone who thinks they may have been exposed to COVID-19 follow these recommendations*:

1. Self-quarantine for a period of 10 days since your last exposure.
2. If you are asymptomatic, you can reduce the quarantine period in item 1 by:
 - a. Getting tested for COVID-19 on day 6 or 7 after your last exposure, and self-quarantine until you receive a negative result.
 - b. If you receive a negative result and continue to be asymptomatic you can resume normal activities on day 8.
 - c. If your result is positive, continue to isolate and follow the advice of Public Health.
3. If at any time you become symptomatic you should seek testing for COVID-19 immediately:
 - a. If you receive a negative result continue to quarantine for at least 10 days and until you are fever free for 72 hours without the use of medication.
 - b. If you receive a positive test continue to isolate and follow advice of Public Health
4. If you need guidance or have questions about self-quarantine, isolation, or when to test; call Public Health at 225-4350.

****EOC Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated Individuals are posted at www.kgbak.us/covid19***

The Berth 3 Drive-Up Testing Clinic is available for free testing for anyone who is symptomatic, believes they may be a close contact to a known positive, or may have recently been exposed to COVID-19. The hours of the Berth 3 Drive-Up Clinic are Tuesday through Saturday, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. AND 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.

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