August 7, 2020

Attn: Bill O’Brien, Superintendent
Mona Shores Public Schools
121 Randall Road
Muskegon, MI 49441

Superintendent O’Brien:

Public Health – Muskegon County reviewed Mona Shores Public Schools’ COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan for the 2020/2021 school year. We feel that it effectively addresses the safety protocols, precautionary measures and environmental controls as required and/or recommended to minimize COVID-19 exposure risks. Therefore, we wholeheartedly support/endorse the plan as presented.

We commit to continuing the weekly discussions with local school district superintendents, as arranged by the Muskegon Area Intermediate School District, throughout the duration of the pandemic to present and discuss local public health trends, such as the number of positive cases, percent positive cases, hospital capacity, testing capacity, epidemiologically linked cases, and hospital staffing capacity.

We acknowledge and appreciate your cooperation in working with us on implementing protocols for screening students and staff. We also appreciate your readiness to assist us in collecting the contact information for any school-related close contacts of the affected individual if a confirmed case of COVID-19 is identified.

Local health departments are responsible for conducting COVID-19 case investigations and contact tracing. Public Health will initiate a COVID-19 case investigation upon receiving a report of a positive test result or a report from a healthcare provider of a patient with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19. Public Health will also issue quarantine orders for the close contacts using the most current guidelines from the CDC for this determination. Close contacts are individuals who were within 6 feet of a confirmed COVID-19 case for a prolonged period of time (approximately 15 minutes or more) or had direct contact with the infectious secretions of a COVID-19 case (e.g., were coughed on).

Execution and adherence to your COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan is a critical component in keeping your students, staff, families and community safe! Thank you for embracing this necessary change and dedicating the extra hours and tremendous effort needed to complete this document.

Wishing you a safe and successful school year!

Kathy Moore, Health Officer/Public Health Director