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News for Darien

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Darien High School, Middlesex Middle School Closed Monday Due to Teacher Absences

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A day after almost 700 Darien school teachers and staff received their second vaccine shot, and with a higher-than-usual number of district staff and students under quarantines, a "high number of secondary school staff absences" has left the district unable to open Darien High School and Middlesex Middle School on Monday, Superintendent Alan Addley announced Sunday evening.

Elementary schools will remain open as usual, the superintendent said in a message to families and staff emailed to Darienite.com at 9:35 p.m.

There will be no remote learning or sporting events on Monday, and the school day will be made up at the end of the school year, the same way a snow day would, Addley said.

"Given the number of secondary school staff illnesses and the District's inability to cover classes and intervention services, the high school and middle school will be closed tomorrow," Addley wrote.

The number of positive tests for COVID-19 among school staff and students, and the quarantines of anyone near those who tested positive rose significantly in late March. On Friday, March 26, [Addley wrote](#) in a message to parents and staff: "The significant increase in COVID cases, contact tracing, the number of people quarantined, and disruptions to school schedules this week is a reminder that we are not out of the woods."

Full Text of Addley's Message

Good Evening Families & Staff,

Due to the high number of secondary school staff absences that have been reported this evening, Darien High School and Middlesex Middle School will be closed tomorrow, Monday, April 5.

Given the number of secondary school staff illnesses and the District's inability to cover classes and intervention services, the high school and middle school will be closed tomorrow with no remote learning or sporting events. **Elementary schools are open.**

Tomorrow will essentially be treated the same as a conventional "snow day" for secondary school students with the day being made up at the end of the school year.

Thank you for accommodating this late notice and change to the secondary school schedule.

Sincerely,

Dr. Addley

Superintendent of Schools