



March 12, 2020

**CONTACT:**

Office of the Mayor  
(860) 638-4801

Middletown Board of Education  
(860) 638-1401

**UPDATES: Joint Statement from Mayor Ben Florsheim and Superintendent Dr. Michael Conner Regarding Temporary Closure of Keigwin Middle School**

In the wake of last night's decision by the City of Middletown and Middletown Public Schools to close Keigwin Middle School today and Friday, we want to thank the Middletown community for their cooperation and support during a difficult and uncertain time. We will continue to provide updates and guidance as information becomes available.

The decision to close the school was made out of an abundance of caution after we learned that a member of the Keigwin community may have had contact with an individual who tested positive for COVID-19. The person in question is not a Keigwin student, and is in contact with medical professionals regarding their health status. We have no reason to believe that this person has had any contact with students, faculty, or administration at any other Middletown school.

Middletown Public Schools is maintaining an emphasis on teaching and learning, and appreciates the support of parents and families as we endeavor to continue providing quality education to benefit all of our students. We echo the message being telegraphed by public health professionals: the COVID-19 outbreak is a major global pandemic that will cause

disruptions to ordinary life everywhere in the world, including Middletown. These disruptions are likely to continue, but with proactive community efforts, they will be manageable.

Once again, we appreciate the vital cooperation and understanding from the Middletown community as we navigate this situation as one united city. We will continue to do everything in our power to keep Middletown safe, healthy, and informed.

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