



River Valley School District

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October 12, 2020

Dear Staff/Parents/Guardians,

In our continued commitment to keep you timely informed about important events, and to follow Emergency Order MCL 333.2253 (Reporting of Confirmed and Probable Cases of Covid 19 at Schools), we are writing to notify you that a student at the Middle/High School notified the District today that they tested positive for COVID-19. Our thoughts are with the student and their family as we wish them a full, speedy, recovery.

The District has notified the Berrien County Health Department of the confirmed case. As a result of this positive case, additional students have been advised to self-quarantine and more may be identified through the health department's contract tracing. Students who are required to self-quarantine will continue to have access to instruction and supports will be offered to continue to assist them until they are able to safely return to school.

The District will continue to work with the Health Department to continue to identify any other students or staff with whom the affected student has been in close contact, which is defined as within 6 feet of the affected student for longer than 15 minutes. Those individuals are notified separately, and protective measures, as directed by the Health Department and the individuals' health care provider, are implemented which may include a required quarantine period due to the exposure. Health officials will likely interview and provide assistance directly to individuals with an elevated risk of exposure who may have been in recent close contact with the affected student. The District will also identify any areas and equipment used by the student and initiate a complete cleaning and disinfecting of the affected areas or equipment.

We continue to employ best practices to minimize risks of the Coronavirus to our employees and students, guided by the advice of federal, state, and local public health agencies. Protective measures that may be implemented in situations like this depend on a variety of factors and could include testing, self-isolation or self-monitoring and/or reporting of any symptoms. Some individuals who are exposed may be tested, some may not. The decision to be tested is a decision made with your health care provider and the Berrien County Health Department

Please continue to monitor yourself or your child for symptoms of COVID-19, which include the symptoms identified on the CDC website located here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>. If you or your child feel symptomatic, contact your health care provider as well as contact Human Resources or the Building Principal.

Please also continue practice the health and safety precautions recommended by the Berrien County Health Department and the CDC:

- Avoid close contact with people, especially those who are sick.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom, blowing your nose, coughing, and before eating. (If soap and water is not available, use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.)
- Stay home if you are sick.

We will continue to keep you updated and share the latest guidance and information with you once available. If you have concerns or questions, please let us know.

Thank you,

Scott Bojanich
Superintendent