

October 17, 2020

Dear Families,

Late last night, the District learned that an employee who has recently spent time in each of the five Bethel Park elementary schools, has tested positive for COVID-19. The adult did not spend much time in close proximity to any Bethel Park students. However, in accordance with the District's health and safety protocols, the individual has immediately begun to quarantine and will remain isolated at home for at least the next two weeks until their symptoms have passed and they have been cleared by a medical professional as being no longer contagious.

For Abraham Lincoln Elementary School, this was the second known exposure within the past week, which means that in accordance with our health and safety protocols, and out of an abundance of caution, Lincoln will temporarily suspend all in-person instruction from Monday, Oct. 19 through Wednesday, Oct. 28. During that time, Lincoln students will instead exclusively use the District's Remote Learning Model. **Lincoln students, including our incoming Kindergarten classes, will resume in-person instruction on Thursday, Oct. 29.**

All other Bethel Park schools will remain unaffected by this news. Also, incoming Kindergartners at Benjamin Franklin, George Washington, Memorial, and William Penn elementary schools are still scheduled to begin in-person instruction on Monday, Oct. 26.

Anyone considered to have been in close contact with that individual has been informed of the situation and has been instructed to follow the mandatory quarantine at home protocols for two weeks. Please be aware that quarantining in this situation does not necessarily mean that these other individuals have tested positive for COVID-19. It simply means that they may have been exposed to the virus, and therefore they must remain quarantined in order to avoid potentially spreading it to others.

If you have not been contacted with specific instructions, it means that you or your student have not met the minimum exposure threshold in the District's health and protocols and therefore should continue as scheduled without interruption.

As a reminder, if you or a child in your care test positive for the coronavirus, you must inform your school nurse or school administration as soon as possible and begin isolating immediately.

**PLEASE CONTINUE TO FOLLOW ALL MANDATED SOCIAL DISTANCING AND PERSONAL SAFETY PRACTICES, INCLUDING WEARING PROPER AND APPROVED FACE-COVERINGS, MAINTAINING AT LEAST SIX FEET OF PERSONAL DISTANCE FROM OTHERS WHENEVER POSSIBLE, PROPER HAND-WASHING FOR AT LEAST 20 SECONDS EACH TIME, AND REGULARLY CLEANING AND DISINFECTING FREQUENTLY-USED OR SHARED SPACES, ITEMS, AND SURFACES.**

We wish a full and speedy recovery to any individuals in our District who experience the coronavirus. We look forward to seeing them once they are deemed healthy enough to safely return to school.

Sincerely,

Joseph C Dimperio, Ph.D.  
Acting Superintendent, Bethel Park School District