



June 1, 2021

Dear Families,

Re: Three Positive COVID-19 tests reported at Bethel Park High School

Earlier today, we reported that over the weekend, a staff member at Lincoln Elementary School had tested positive for COVID-19. Unfortunately, in the next sentence we erroneously referenced a student case. That was incorrect. The lone case reported over the weekend came from a staff member at Lincoln Elementary.

Today, three new cases of COVID-19 have been reported at Bethel Park High School, all involving students. Two of the cases involve in-person learners who were each last in school May 27. The third student case reported came from a student enrolled in the full-remote learning program.

Bethel Park School District's health and safety protocols mandate that the individuals will remain isolated at home until their symptoms have abated and they have been cleared by a medical professional as being no longer contagious.

Anyone who is considered to have been in close contact with the individuals has been informed of the situation and has been instructed to follow the required quarantine at home protocols for 10 days. 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 to avoid potentially spreading it to others.

If you have not been contacted with specific instructions, it means that you or your student has not been exposed to COVID-19 through the students and therefore should continue as scheduled.

Please note that for transparency reasons, our [COVID-19 dashboard](#), which is located on the District's website, lists **all** reported case counts involving BPSD students and staff, regardless of their educational pathway. Calls home are made only when there is a change in any of our schools' operational status.

Finally, it is imperative, perhaps now more than ever, that we continue to maintain social distancing, regularly wash your hands for at least 20 seconds in warm soapy water and continue to wear a mask that completely covers up your nose and mouth areas. Also, if anyone in your family is under-the-weather on a given day, and their symptoms are even semi-consistent with COVID-19, please **ALWAYS** err on the side of caution and stay home from school and see a medical professional – even if you/they have already been vaccinated.

We are much better off now than we have been in more than a year. However, we have an opportunity to close out the school year on a high note but that depends on everyone's willingness and ability to continue to follow the same practices that have been so successful for us throughout the school year.

Sincerely,

James Walsh, Ed.D.
Superintendent, Bethel Park School District