



December 9, 2020

Dear Families,

Re: Two New COVID-19 Cases at George Washington Elementary School

A pair of COVID-19 diagnoses reported today by Benjamin Franklin Elementary School staff has caused Bethel Park School District to temporarily close that school for the rest of the week. It will reopen to staff only beginning on Monday, Dec. 14. Students are not expected to return to our buildings until Monday, Jan. 11. We continue to monitor all of the local, county, and statewide data to inform our decision-making.

In accordance with Bethel Park's health and safety protocols, the individuals will remain isolated at home until their symptoms have passed 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 either individual has been informed of the situation and has been instructed to follow the required 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 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 either of these students 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. Going forward, our families will have an even greater level of responsibility to help mitigate the spread of coronavirus in Bethel Park schools.

As always, the health, safety, and well-being of our students and staff remain our top priority.

Sincerely,

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