

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR CHILD

Date

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We have been notified of a case of COVID19 within our school. We are working with our local health officials, District Health Department #10 (DHD#10), and will be following their direction to implement the following plan of action:

- We are working with DHD#10 to determine close contacts of the case **and your child has been identified as a close contact¹**.
- **Your child needs to be in home quarantine for a total of 14 days past the last time he/she was exposed to the person with COVID19.**
- Your child will be enrolled in an automated text messaging system that will prompt you to answer health questions about your child each day of the quarantine period. If this will not work for your family, please contact Gretchen Cooper RN at 231-309-8942 to discuss alternative plans.
- If your child should develop any symptoms consistent with COVID19, please call DHD#10 at the following number 231-723-3595(symptoms of COVID19 are listed below).
- The school staff will continue to clean/disinfect per protocol, as well as deep clean the affected areas where the exposure occurred.
- You can get your child tested for COVID19 if you desire, even if they do not have symptoms. If your child tests negative, he/she will still need to complete the full period of quarantine. To find a testing location, go to www.mi.gov/coronavirustest or call 211.

Quarantine is an important step in preventing the spread of COVID19. People placed in quarantine should stay home, separate themselves from others, and monitor for any symptoms of COVID19. When feasible, they should use a designated area of the home, including restroom facilities, that no one else should enter or use. If your child is tested with a negative result, he/she will still have to complete the rest of the quarantine period. For more information see www.cdc.gov/coronaavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html

We understand this is a trying time for your family. We will transition your child to online learning during the quarantine period. Please contact the school office to make arrangements for any equipment needs. Please follow the direction from DHD#10 on how to quarantine your child. If your child is symptom free upon complete of the quarantine period, he/she may return to normal activities.

Symptoms of COVID19 include: fever/chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle/body aches, headache, new loss of taste/smell, sore throat, congestion/runny nose, nausea/vomiting, or diarrhea. Anyone with symptoms should be tested. Please visit www.mi.gov/coronavirustest or call 211 for a testing location, or contact your primary care provider.

More information can also be found at www.dhd10.org. If at any time you have questions or concerns regarding your child's health, please reach out to Gretchen Cooper RN at 231-309-8942.

¹ A close contact is: Someone who has had prolonged exposure from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated. We do not know exactly how to define the "prolonged exposure" to determine "close contact", however 15 minutes of close exposure can be used as a best estimate. Factors to consider when defining close contact include proximity, the duration of exposure (e.g., longer exposure time likely increases risk), and whether the individual has symptoms (e.g., coughing likely increases exposure risk). At this time, the determination of close contact for those using fabric face coverings is not recommended. (see CDC <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/contact-tracing/contact-tracing-plan/appendix.html#Key-Terms>)

To your health,

Jennifer Morse, MD
Medical Director
District Health Department #10