



SOUTHWEST LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Dear SLSD Families:

October 9, 2020

This communication is to let you know that we have been working on multiple Health Alert situations with Hamilton County Public Health (HCPH) at Harrison High School. We were notified yesterday afternoon, 10/08/20, at approximately 3:15 PM that a student at Harrison High School tested positive for the COVID-19 virus. Then, this morning at approximately 7:00 AM, we were notified that another student had tested positive. The cases are unrelated. Currently, district-wide, we have one elementary student, two junior school students, and four high school students, including the two aforementioned high school students, who are positive cases. There are no staff members positive at this time. Due to federal privacy laws, we are not permitted to provide the names of the students who tested positive, or the names of those students or staff who may need to quarantine.

We immediately began our protocol processes of contact tracing with HCPH and are following up with all safety and sanitization recommendations. "Close contacts" (those people within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes, within a 48-hour time frame of symptom display) have been notified by our Administrative Team. All families have been notified if your student was a close contact.

As a reminder, it is imperative that we all remain vigilant in monitoring for symptoms and continue to practice good hand-hygiene and mask up, ensuring that masks cover both the mouth and nose. It is also important that all families / staff conduct daily health checks PRIOR to leaving for school. If you are sick or exhibiting any of the symptoms below, please stay home. If a household member is being tested, siblings should stay home until the test result comes back, in an effort to err on the side of caution and help to further reduce possible spread. It's important to note that the COVID precautions need to be practiced during activities held away from school, just as they are in school.

Any ONE of these symptoms: Cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing

Any TWO of the following symptoms: Fever (100.4 or above), chills with shaking, body aches, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell.

See the attached letter of notification from HCPH for the incidents at [HARRISON HIGH SCHOOL](#). We will also use this [FLOW CHART](#) to assist with decision-making regarding the timeline to return to school, as well as the [WEEKLY DATA UPDATE](#) to communicate our district COVID data (cases / quarantines).

Lastly – it is important we both sympathize and empathize with those that are ill, quarantined or isolated for precautionary reasons.

John C. Hamstra
Superintendent
Southwest Local Schools

Mission: "Academic and Social growth for all students, EVERY DAY!"

Motto: "Excellence through Relationships!"

Core Values: Trust, Respect, Ownership, and Leadership