



SOUTHWEST LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Dear SLSD Families:

November 25, 2020

This is the bi-weekly SLSD Health Update, a summary of all COVID-19 cases being addressed by SLSD and Hamilton County Public Health (HCPH) during the reporting period.

From November 22-25, 2020, we were notified of the following positive tests.

November 22 – Student at Harrison Junior School

November 23 – Two students at Harrison High School

Currently, district-wide, we have eight students who are positive cases, out of nearly 3,600 face-to-face students. We have four staff members who are positive cases, out of 385 total staff members. Due to federal privacy laws, we are not permitted to provide the names of the individuals who tested positive, or the names of those students or staff who may need to quarantine. "Close contacts" (those people within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes, within a 48-hour time frame of symptom display) are notified by our Administrative Team. All families have been notified if your student was a close contact of any of these cases.

Our school community appreciates everyone's efforts to keep each other safe. Let's continue this commitment to healthy practices as we approach the Thanksgiving holiday and weekend. It's up to all of us to slow the spread of COVID-19. A spike in cases could force schools to go remote and cancel winter sports. The sacrifices we make now will pay dividends down the road. The vaccine is coming soon!

Here are the steps we need you to take to protect our school community:

- Please monitor your student for symptoms of COVID-19, which may include cough, shortness of breath, new smell disorder, or new taste disorder. Other symptoms include fever (measured or subjective), shivering with chills, body aches, headache, sore throat, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue, congestion or runny nose.
- If your child develops symptoms consistent with COVID-19, please keep your child at home and consult with your physician regarding next steps.

It is imperative that we all remain vigilant in monitoring for symptoms and continue to practice good hand-hygiene and wear masks, 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 aforementioned symptoms, 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 is important to note that the COVID precautions need to be practiced during activities held away from school, just as they are in school – this includes social gatherings, youth groups, youth sports, traveling, etc.*** [THIS GRAPHIC](#) speaks to the ways the virus can be spread at events such as these, when COVID precautions are not followed, leading to others being affected.

We will continue to 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).

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