



Hello Norse Nation-

Earlier this school year, we let you know that we will move as quickly, accurately, and transparently as possible upon receiving information from our Health Department. This message is being sent to provide information we just gained from Public Health Muskegon County and to affirm the needed actions by the school and our families.

This morning, we were informed we have an elementary student that has tested positive for COVID. This is our first confirmed positive test of a student and/or staff member. This student is a virtual student and **at no time** this school year has been in our school building. We also were informed that we have 7 students currently in quarantine due to close contact with a COVID positive person. I thank all families involved for doing their part by keeping their child(ren) home and in quarantine. These actions assist in keeping this controlled to the best of our ability. Well done! We wish for all kids and community members involved to be safe and healthy.

To reiterate everyone's roles/responsibilities:

When we learn of a positive case **in our school** the following steps take place under the guidance of Public Health-Muskegon County:

1. A phone call is made to the parent of the positive case. The purpose of this call is to confirm the positive result, begin the process of identifying close contacts (if any), and notify them of the required quarantine and return to school date (14 days from last possible exposure).
2. Close contacts of the positive case are then contacted individually. 'Close contact' is generally defined as being within 6 feet for 15 or more minutes with or without a mask.
3. Close contacts are also required to quarantine for 14 days from the last possible exposure.
4. Parents of students in the cohort of the positive case are then notified via email letter. These students are not considered close contacts and need only to monitor for symptoms and are not quarantined.

If a student lives in a household that has a confirmed positive case, the following must be followed:

1. The school must be contacted immediately with all student names living in the household.
2. All members of this household must quarantine for a minimum of 14 days with no symptoms.
3. The family should continue to communicate with the school on the health status of student(s).

If a student comes in close contact with a COVID positive person, the following must be followed:

1. The school must be contacted immediately with the student name(s).

2. The student must quarantine.
3. The family should continue to communicate with the school on the health status of student(s).

The following link will take you to the COVID Back to School Parent Toolkit developed by Public Health Muskegon County. Click [here](#).

We work very closely under the guidance of Public Health-Muskegon County to mitigate the risk of exposure for our students. We work quickly and efficiently to identify possible exposure, make contact with individual families, and determine next steps. Please be assured, we will continue to do our best to keep our school community safe!

Please call or email with any questions or concerns. Take care!

Dr. Babcock