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SADDLE BROOK SCHOOL DISTRICT

355 Mayhill Street, Saddle Brook, New Jersey 07663 Phone 201.843.1142 Fax 201.843.021 Danielle M. Shanley

Superintendent of Schools

COVID-19 School Notification - Positive COVID-19 Case in School

January 22, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians:

This letter is to inform you that we have *multiple new cases* of **Coronavirus** Disease 2019 (COVID-19).

 The first case today is a presumptive positive individual at Smith School. This individual was last in the building on Tuesday, January 19, and may have been contagious at that time. Unknowingly, this individual (who is now symptomatic) had close contact with an infected person. As per the guidance of the Bergen County Health Department, we have individuals who were identified as "close contacts" who must quarantine for 14 days. Those families and staff members have already been notified by school employees. Close contact is defined by the NJDOH.

Based on the guidance from the NJDOH, whenever we have two or more unrelated cases in the same school, the school moves to *all remote instruction for two weeks*. Smith School will reopen for in person instruction on Tuesday, February 9.

2. The next two cases are at Long Memorial School. These individuals are fully remote. No members of our school community have to quarantine for these cases.

Please understand that guidance is updated regularly and changes all the time. As per the most recent and updated guidance from the <u>Department of Health on January 19, 2021</u>, secondary contacts such as SIBLINGS do **NOT** have to quarantine unless parents want to keep them home, or unless someone in the household develops symptoms.

The District is coordinating closely with public health officials and following CDC, State, County and local health department guidance in order to assure the health and safety of our community. **If any further developments occur, you will be notified.**

We understand the level of concern regarding COVID-19. We encourage parents and students to continue following the <u>Centers for Disease Control & Prevention</u> promoted safeguards, such as:

- Avoiding social gatherings and indoor restaurants;
- Staying home when you are sick;
- Washing hands often with soap often and for at least 20 seconds;
- Covering coughs and sneezes and properly disposing of tissues;
- Limiting close contact with people who are sick and not sharing food, drinks and utensils;
- Practicing social distancing (staying at least 6 feet apart);
- Wearing a face covering;
- Getting a flu shot to prevent taxing the medical systems with flu outbreak; and
- Continuing to monitor your health for COVID related symptoms.

As always, we appreciate our community's support and cooperation. You can assist us by remaining vigilant but sensible in your approach to dealing with this health concern. We are relying on parents to guide their children in making good choices about social distancing and mask wearing when outside of school. Inattention to these matters can eventually bring the virus into the schools and impact all of the good work we are trying to do. Should you have any questions about this situation, please feel free to contact your school nurse or your principal.

***We are relying on parents to notify us when their children are sick, or when they have tested positive for COVID-19. Even if your children are fully remote, PLEASE notify your school principal should your children test positive.

With all good wishes for continued health,

Januel M. Shanley

School Nurses: Middle/High School - Carol Rabe, RN 201.843.1142, ext. 1422 Fax 201.843.4305

Franklin School - Marianne DeAlessi, DNP, RN 201.843.1142, ext. 5402 Fax: 201-843-3231

Helen I. Smith School - Ellen Ciceri, RN 201.843.1142, ext. 4402 Fax 201.796.0665

Long Memorial School - Kelly Fontana, RN 201.843.1142, ext. 3402 Fax 201.796.1671

Washington Early Childhood Center - Janet Stofkoper, RN 201-843-1142, ext. 6402 Fax 201-843-2610