

SADDLE BROOK SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Danielle M. Shanley Superintendent of Schools

COVID-19 School Notification - Positive COVID-19 Cases in School

March 23, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians:

This letter is to inform you that we have multiple new cases within the district:

- Two individuals at the Middle/High School have tested positive for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). These individuals were NOT in the school during the contagious period. This is not a contracting notification.
 Reminder: MS/HS is now in the combined cohort phase with all students eligible for 4 days of in person instruction each week. The next opportunity for remote students to return to in person instruction is April 20. Please contact your guidance counselor, VP or principal to arrange a return time should you want your child to return from remote status.
- One new individual at Smith School tested positive for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). This
 individual was last in the building on March 19 and was presumed contagious at that time.
 Close contact is defined by the NJDOH. Smith School staff has already notified ALL those who are
 required to quarantine.

As part of our protocol, the Bergen County Health Department was contacted. 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 in a timely manner.**

Cleaning and disinfecting of all exposed areas is being completed. The school is also taking precautions to prevent the introduction and spread of viruses and other germs, cleaning frequently touched surfaces daily, multiple times daily, and sometimes by the hour. We utilize numerous approved disinfecting and cleaning products that destroy COVID-19 as well as other viruses and bacteria. We are monitoring the status of this situation very closely.

PLEASE REVIEW UPDATED CDC GUIDANCE for Schools HERE

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;
- 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.
- Getting Vaccinated against COVID

After weeks of decline, the state is seeing increases in caes. You can view the <u>Coronavirus Tracker</u> <u>here</u>. The region and district is still in the <u>ORANGE zone</u>. The district will continue to analyze the state and regional data, and the local positive COVID case numbers to protect the health and safety of the students and staff before we make any additional changes to our schedule. The decisions we make MUST be data driven.

Please do not allow sunshine and warmer days to distract us from our need to regularly socially distance, wear masks and disinfect our hands. Please do not send sick children to school. 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.

Don't Forget Weekly COVID Screenings in Genesis.

Should you have any questions about this situation, please feel free to contact your school nurse or your principal.

With all good wishes for continued health,

Danielle M. Shanley

NJ <u>Travel Advisory</u> Information NJDOE <u>The Road Forward</u> <u>Coronavirus increasing exponentially across the country</u> CDC Recent <u>COVID Information</u> Register for the vaccine <u>HERE</u>