

UNIONTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

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November 11, 2020

Dear Ben Franklin School Community:

The district was notified this morning that an individual has recently tested positive for Covid-19. The individual's last known date on campus was Friday, November 6, 2020.

After consulting with the PA Department of Health, there is no need for contact tracing since it's been determined that the individual did not have close contact with anyone in the school. Ben Franklin School has been cleaned and disinfected since the individual was last present on school property. The infected individual is an employee and is under quarantine. They will not be present in the school until cleared to return to work.

COVID-19 is a disease that is capable of rapidly spreading person-to-person. If someone is infected, that person can expose other people to COVID-19 even if they show no symptoms. Symptoms of COVID-19 may include cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever or chills, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and/or diarrhea. Older adults and people who have serious chronic medical conditions are at a higher risk for serious illness.

Even if you or your child is not notified that you are a close contact, please do the following for the next 14 days:

1. Take your/child's temperature once daily to check for fever (a body temperature of 100.4°F/38°C or higher).
2. Watch for other symptoms of COVID-19 including cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and/or diarrhea.
3. Immediately report any symptoms requiring medical attention to the Pennsylvania Department of Health (1-877-724-3258) or your local health department and contact your health care provider. Be sure to inform the provider of you or your child's possible exposure to a person with COVID-19.

4. You/Your child should wear a mask and maintain a physical distance of at least 6 feet from any person while outside the home.

5. Practice the following hygiene measures:

- a. Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- b. Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- c. Cover any coughs or sneezes with an elbow, not hands.
- d. Clean surfaces frequently, including countertops, light switches, cell phones, and other frequently touched items.

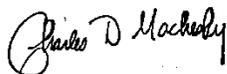
6. Be aware of any persons in your household who may be at higher risk of getting COVID-19, including individuals who are elderly, immunocompromised (e.g., someone who has cancer and is taking chemotherapy), or have another condition or illness such as diabetes or asthma. You or your child should practice physical distancing around those persons.

7. If you are contacted by the Pennsylvania Department of Health or your local health department or its representatives, please cooperate with monitoring and follow all instructions so that other people do not become sick.

If you or any members of your household develop symptoms of COVID-19 or have symptoms worsen, notify your local health department or the Pennsylvania Department of Health immediately at 1-877-724-3258 and contact a health care provider. Before seeking medical attention, let the health care provider know about the possible exposure to a case of COVID-19.

Please visit the Pennsylvania Department of Health website (www.health.pa.gov) for the latest and most accurate information about COVID-19.

Sincerely,



Charles D. Machesky Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools