

November 10, 2020

Dear Mayfield City Schools Parents and Staff,

The Mayfield City School District continues to work closely with the Cuyahoga County Board of Health (CCBH) to ensure a safe school year. Part of this planning includes the steps we take when we learn someone in our school community tests positive for COVID-19.

This afternoon, the district was notified of four additional positive COVID-19 cases involving 2 Excel TECC students and 2 MHS students who also are members of the MHS Varsity Basketball Team.

Effective immediately, all members of the MHS Varsity Basketball Team are placed in a mandatory quarantine. Additional COVID-19 tests among players are pending. Once all team members have completed quarantine, team activities will resume Nov. 21, 2020, if players are symptom free without the use of medications.

In accordance with the established protocols set forth by the CCBH, students will remain at home for 10 days and may return to school if symptom free without the use of medication. Students and staff in close contact with these cases have already been contact traced and will not return to school or school activities until their quarantine period expires and they are symptom free without the use of medications. Public health officials interview each case of COVID-19.

We are doing all we can to continue to provide the in-person learning option in all of our schools. In order to do this, we need your help. Without adherence to the protocols and safe practices in and out of school, it will not be possible to staff in-person learning given the spread that is occurring in our community. Threading this needle is becoming progressively more difficult. This includes sports and other activities our students enjoy and need.

As part of this public health investigation:

- The person(s) diagnosed will remain home from school until they are no longer infectious.
- The person's activities when they could have spread COVID-19 will be assessed.
- The people who were close contacts of the person with COVID-19 will be instructed to stay home from school for 14 days after the exposure. This is called quarantine.

Spread of COVID-19 is currently happening in our community. This is why it is so important for all students and staff to adhere to the key public health prevention strategies to reduce the chance for transmission of COVID-19, including:

- Wearing a face mask
- Social distancing of at least 6 feet
- Frequent hand washing with soap and water
- Hand sanitizing when soap and water are not available
- Staying home when you do not feel well
- Disinfecting high-touch surfaces regularly these include doorknobs, light switches, counters, keyboards and phones

- Not sharing food, drinks, cups and utensils
- Avoiding large gatherings of 10 or more people

To keep cases to a minimum, please check your child for symptoms before coming to school each day. Additionally, if you or your child is experiencing symptoms of COVID-19:

- Review the Coronavirus Self-Checker.
- Continue to keep your child at home from school and avoid other activities around other people.
- Notify the school.
- Seek medical care and testing for COVID-19 by contacting your family health care provider.

If you have questions or want more information about COVID-19, please visit the CCBH web site at COVID-19 School Guidance or call them Monday-Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at 216-201-2000.

Our school will take the following actions steps to ensure continued safe operations:

## <u>Infection Control Measures</u>

- 1. Promoting and demonstrating regular hand washing and positive hygiene behaviors and monitoring their uptake by:
  - a. Ensuring soap and safe water is available at age-appropriate hand washing stations
  - b. Encouraging frequent and thorough hand washing (at least 20 seconds)
  - c. Placing hand sanitizers in restrooms, classrooms, halls and near exits where possible
- 2. Ensuring adequate and clean restrooms
- 3. Cleaning and disinfecting school buildings, classrooms, and especially water and sanitation facilities at least once a day, particularly high contact surfaces that are touched by many people (railings, lunch tables, sports equipment, door and window handles, toys, teaching and learning aids etc.)
- 4. Increasing air flow and ventilation where weather permits (open windows, use air conditioning where available etc.)
- 5. Posting signs encouraging good hand and respiratory hygiene practices
- 6. Ensuring trash is removed daily and disposed of safely

## Mitigation Measures

- 1. Social distancing practices
  - a. Cohorting students and classrooms (when we return to in person learning)
  - b. Using on-line and e-learning strategies
- 2. Procedures for ill students and staff
  - a. Ensuring ill staff or students remain home
  - b. Documenting comprehensive contact lists
- 3. Information sharing
  - a. Providing timely information on disease information and prevention efforts
- 4. Monitor school attendance
- a. Monitoring absenteeism patterns and alert health authorities about increases in respiratory illness

5. Implement continuity of learning plans

Sincerely,

Keich Kelly

Keith Kelly, Superintendent