

November 15, 2020

Dear Mayfield City Schools Parents and Staff,

Please be aware elementary school transportation routes may be briefly delayed this week as a result of a staffing shortage in the transportation department due to quarantine requirements. We will continue to provide bus transportation before and after school, but are asking elementary school parents and students to understand routes may be briefly impacted.

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.

Today the district was notified of three positive COVID-19 cases involving one Millridge Elementary student, one CEVEC student and one Central Office employee. In accordance with the established protocols set forth by the CCBH, the students and employee will remain at home for 10 days and may return to school and work if symptom free without the use of medication. Staff and students in close contact with these cases have already been contact traced and notified. Those involved will not return to school or work until their quarantine period expires and they are symptom free without the use of medications.

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 <u>COVID-19</u> <u>School Guidance</u> 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:

## Infection Control Measures

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,

Keith Kelly

Keith Kelly, Superintendent