



Downers Grove Grade School District 58
Administrative Service Center
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November 9, 2020

Dear Herrick Middle School Staff and Families:

District 58 learned today that two eighth grade Herrick students tested positive for COVID-19. The students are not related and are not in the same student cohort. Both students were last at the school on Thursday, Oct. 29 due to the eighth grade alternating onsite grade level schedule.

The first student tested positive for COVID-19 on Saturday, Oct. 31 after his/her sibling reported COVID symptoms on Oct. 29 and tested positive on Oct. 30. The student and his/her family members were quarantined due to the symptomatic family member and got tested in accordance with Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) guidance after the initial positive test result. As stated above, the student has not been in attendance at school since Oct. 29 and was not symptomatic at that time. The family reported this to the school today.

The second student tested positive for COVID-19 on Saturday, Nov. 7 after his/her parents reported COVID-19 symptoms on Nov. 4 and tested positive on Nov. 6. In addition, the student became symptomatic on Friday, Nov. 6. Again, the student has not been at school since Oct. 29 and was not symptomatic at that time. The student is a bus rider; however, since the student was last on the bus prior to the 48-hour incubation period, there is no risk of close contacts at this time.

At this time, we do not believe the students were in close contact with any District 58 students or staff members while at school due to maintaining the District's strict social distancing requirements. In the event the District learns there were close contacts with other students or staff inside or outside of school, those individuals will be required to quarantine for 14 days. There is no known school link to these cases.

District 58 will continue to follow all protocols outlined by the IDPH when a student or staff member tests positive. Per IDPH guidelines, this student must stay home at least 10 calendar days from onset of symptoms, or, for asymptomatic cases, from the COVID-19 test date, AND for 24 hours with no fever (without fever-reducing medication) AND improvement of symptoms. Additionally, the Herrick custodial staff thoroughly cleans and disinfects all areas of the school every evening. Herrick Middle School has been cleaned and disinfected multiple times since this student was last onsite.

District 58 will also notify the DuPage County Health Department (DCHD) of the positive case to ensure that protocols, contact tracing and the self-certification process were followed. The health and safety of our students, staff and families is paramount, and we will continue to follow all guidelines called for by the IDPH and the DCHD. Please continue to wear masks, adhere to social distancing requirements, and thoroughly wash and/or sanitize your hands as this is the best way to combat the spread of COVID-19.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kevin B. Russell

Superintendent of Schools