



Downers Grove Grade School District 58
Administrative Service Center
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Dr. Kevin B. Russell, Superintendent
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November 19, 2020

Dear Herrick Middle School Staff and Families:

District 58 learned this morning that a Herrick staff member tested positive for COVID-19. The employee was last at work on Friday, Nov. 13. The employee developed COVID-19 symptoms on the evening of Friday, Nov. 13. He/she began to quarantine after experiencing symptoms and got tested for COVID-19, in accordance with Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) guidelines.

District 58 also learned today that Herrick seventh and eighth grade siblings tested positive for COVID-19 on Thursday, Nov. 12. The seventh grade student was last at school on Wednesday, Nov. 4, and the eighth grade student was last in school on Friday, Nov. 6. The students' last days at school differ solely due to middle school scheduling. The family reported that when a family member experienced symptoms, the family began to quarantine, and the family member got tested for COVID-19, in accordance with IDPH guidelines. After the family member tested positive on Nov. 9, the students took COVID-19 tests. District 58 is grateful that this family and staff member followed the IDPH's requirements.

At this time, we do not believe the individuals were in close contact with any District 58 students or staff members while at school due to maintaining 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-based link related to this case.

Per IDPH guidelines, these two students and one staff member must stay home at least 10 calendar days from onset of symptoms, (or for asymptomatic cases, from COVID-19 test date) AND for 24 hours with no fever (without fever-reducing medication) AND improvement of symptoms. The individuals will follow these guidelines, and the 10-day period will conclude prior to the planned resumption of in-person instruction on Nov 30.

District 58 will continue to follow all protocols outlined by the IDPH when a student or staff member tests positive. Additionally, the District thoroughly cleans and disinfects all areas of schools and/or buildings every night. Herrick has been cleaned and disinfected several times since these students and employee were last onsite.

District 58 will also notify the DuPage County Health Department (DCHD) of the positive case to ensure that contact tracing and protocols were strictly 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