



October 11, 2020

Dear Parents,

We recently became aware of one of our lunchtime volunteers who has tested positive for COVID-19. We were informed on Sunday, October 11 that the volunteer had a COVID test with a positive result. It is our role to tell all the families and staff of St. Joseph Elementary School that we are moving forward under the guidance of the Calhoun County Public Health Department and that all measures have been taken to protect the well-being of our staff and students/your child(ren).

At this time any close contacts that are required to quarantine have already been contacted. The volunteer was last in school on Tuesday, October 6. I want to assure you that all screening and temperature protocols were followed. The volunteer did not have any symptoms until Wednesday, October 7. A rapid COVID test was given on Thursday, October 8 that came back with a negative result. Then a second test was given, which came back late Saturday, October 10 with a positive result. We want to protect the confidentiality of this person and request you do the same, however I wanted you to be aware of the timeline. Per my conversation with the health department, there is a very low risk that students have been exposed.

Please monitor for onset of symptoms related to COVID-19, including cough, shortness of breath, fever (temperature > 100.4°F), chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, or new loss of taste or smell. If you note any change in the health of your child, please contact your regular medical provider.

We want to assure our families and school community that our staff has followed the comprehensive guidelines related to cleaning and screening students set forth by the Michigan Return to School Roadmap, Calhoun County Public Health Department and the Diocese of Kalamazoo.

If you have any specific questions or concerns, please contact me directly. You may find information on our Back to School Plan on our website at www.bcacs.org. Let us join together in praying for the healing of our beloved volunteer.

Sincerely,

Sara Myers, Principal