

August 27, 2020

Dear Parents,

We recently became aware of a student in our St. Joseph Middle School that tested positive for COVID-19. We were informed on Thursday, August 27 that the student's test came back positive. We are responsible for informing all staff and school parents who are considered "close contacts" by the CDC guidelines, the Calhoun County Public Health Department, and the Diocese of Kalamazoo.

If you are required to quarantine because of an exposure, the health department will contact you directly. If your child does not qualify as a close contact, you will not hear from the health department. We want to protect the confidentiality of this person and request you do the same.

At this time, it is our role to tell all the families of St. Joseph Middle 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 students/your child(ren).

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.

The student is, and has been, asymptomatic and will only return to school when released by the health department. Per our conversations with the health department, there is a very low risk that students have been exposed.

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 this student.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sara J. Myers".

Sara Myers, Principal