

February 8th, 2021

Dear Parents,

This weekend we became aware of a positive COVID case and a probable positive case at St. Joseph Elementary. We also became aware of another separate positive COVID case at St. Joseph Middle School. We are responsible for informing all staff and school parents of this by the CDC guidelines, the Calhoun County Public Health Department, and the Diocese of Kalamazoo. At this time all "close contacts" have been notified and directed on next steps. We want to protect the confidentiality of these individuals and request you do the same.

Under the direction of the health department, we are taking the following precautionary measures as this is the first time we have had students in the buildings during their contagious period.

In the elementary, the positive case and probable positive case are from the same classroom. This class and teacher will be at home in quarantine for this week, February 8th-12th, and will be able to return to school on Monday, February 15th. The teacher will be providing virtual learning to the class from home.

The middle school will be moving to virtual learning for this week, February 8th-12th, and will return to school on Monday, February 15th. The reason for being virtual is out of mindfulness for our teaching staff due to the fact that all our teachers may have been exposed to the student that tested positive.

We want to assure St. Joseph Elementary and Middle School families 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 above 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 these individuals.

Sincerely,
Sara Myers
Principal
St. Joseph Elementary and Middle Schools