

10/17/2020

Dear parents and staff of Pepin Area School District:

I received official confirmation today that we had our first positive cases of COVID-19 in our school district.

A 5th grade student has tested positive for COVID-19 due to an exposure outside of school. Pepin County Health Department with assistance from the district, will be doing contact tracing and county health will contact each family or staff member directly, who is a direct contact.

Additionally, we have had one staff member test positive for COVID 19 due to an exposure outside of our school district. These two events are not related in any way. The staff member has not had any contact with staff or our students for well over 48 hours before the positive test result.

Please remember that the school district can not disclose the name(s) of student(s) or staff who test positive. The Pepin County Health Department will be in contact with you if your son or daughter was a direct contact and needs to quarantine for 14 days from the date of the direct contact.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) is a virus that is spread even before individuals show symptoms. It spreads from person to person through droplets created when we cough, sneeze, talk, sing or laugh. Thus, it is ever important for all students, family members, and staff members to closely watch for symptoms that are outside of their "normal," and to stay home if they are ill. If symptoms occur, please contact your medical provider to request testing.

Please remember to slow the spread of COVID-19:

- 1) Stay home when ill.
- 2) Wear a face covering when in public.
- 3) Wash hands frequently with soap and water. Use hand sanitizer if soap and water are unavailable.
- 4) Clean frequently touched surfaces, such as doorknobs, tables, etc.
- 5) Limit unnecessary travel, events, or large gatherings.

We all need to continue to do our part to slow the spread of COVID-19, and to keep our students and staff members safe.

Thank you for your continued support as we navigate through this pandemic together.

Sincerely,

Bruce Quinton, District Administrator  
Pepin Area Schools