

**Mulberry Grove CUSD #1**  
801 W. Wall St.  
Mulberry Grove, IL 62262

October 13, 2020

Dear Families and Staff:

This letter is to inform you that individual(s) at Mulberry Grove CUSD #1 have tested positive for COVID-19. We are coordinating our efforts with Bond County Health Department to promptly identify and monitor individuals who have had recent contact with our COVID-19 positive individual(s) to prevent further spread within our facility and community. The health and safety of the Mulberry Grove CUSD #1 community is our highest priority, and we recognize the uncertainty and concern regarding COVID-19. We are following guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as well as the state and local health departments for best practices and procedures to protect everyone's health.

To prevent further spread of the disease, Mulberry Grove CUSD #1 has taken the following steps:

- Temporary Closure for identifying and notifying close contacts and for cleaning and disinfection.
- Conducted a deep clean and disinfection of the high school facility, including all common areas
- Staff members and/or students who were identified as having prolonged close contact to the COVID-19 case(s) will be required to be quarantined and will receive a separate notification from the Bond County Health Department. Prolonged close contact is described as being within six feet for 15 minutes or more.

In working with the administration, school board, and coordinated with the Bond County Health department we have developed a plan that will require us to take an "adaptive pause" as we will be switching to remote learning on Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup> with the intent on returning to in-person learning on Monday, October 19<sup>th</sup> for our **HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ONLY**. During this time our elementary and junior high students will continue in-person learning with the same protocols we have been following. Students will be expected to work remotely during this time period and follow the schedules that have been established with their teachers. If you are unable to do this in any circumstance, please contact your children's individual teachers directly via email. While this is not ideal it is the current reality that we are faced with and we appreciate your patience and understanding.

\*If your child meets the guidelines of close contact with the confirmed positive cases, the health department will be in contact within the next 24 hours. Please continue to monitor your children for any potential COVID-19 symptoms.

Upon reopening, we will continue practices to prevent, promptly identify, and respond to potential COVID cases:

- Staff are wearing face coverings at all times while in contact with the children and each other in the facility.
- We are continuously sanitizing toys, surfaces, door handles, etc.
- We are teaching children social distancing and proper handwashing

As always, everyone should monitor their health and stay at home if they develop symptoms and contact their health care provider to determine if testing is needed. Anyone who develops severe symptoms should seek medical care immediately. Your child also should stay home if in the previous 14 days your child has had contact with someone with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19, is under investigation for COVID-19, or is ill with a respiratory illness, or in the previous 14 days, or traveled internationally to countries with widespread, sustained community transmission. If your student has been tested for COVID-19 for any reason they must notify the school nurse and remain quarantined until a negative result as come back.

We are committed to providing your child and our staff with a safe and healthy environment. Thank you for your understanding and ongoing cooperation with our COVID prevention policies and procedures as we work to help protect your children, your families, and our staff and their families. For any questions or concerns, please contact us at 618-326-8812.

Sincerely,

Robert Koontz