

March 22, 2020

Dear D70 Parents and Staff,

District 70 has received notice from a staff member at Highland Middle School that they have been deemed “presumed positive” for COVID-19 by health care providers on Saturday, March 21. The staff member reported onset of symptoms on March 17, which is after the statewide school closure took effect. The staff member was not tested for COVID-19 due to the lack of available test kits and was instructed by health care providers to stay home and continue to monitor their symptoms.

District 70 contacted the Lake County Health Department about this matter and was advised that no additional steps are necessary.

We understand your concern in regards to the identification of the staff member so that individuals can assess their possibility of exposure. However, federal privacy laws prevent administration from sharing the name of the staff member or providing any information that would otherwise lead to the identification of this staff member.

At this juncture, we should not be surprised when presumed positive or positive test results are identified within our community. We assume this will continue to happen, and this is a major reason why schools in Illinois are currently closed and why the Governor issued a “Stay at Home” order until April 7th.

We would like to remind everyone **at every age** that staying home and social distancing is truly important and must be taken seriously in order to not promote further spread of the virus.

District 70 continues to take this ongoing matter of public health and safety very seriously.

The Lake County Health Department advises the following:

- If you develop a fever and symptoms of respiratory illness that continue to worsen, such as cough or difficulty breathing, call your healthcare provider.
- Do not walk into a healthcare facility, urgent care clinic, or hospital before calling. Discuss your symptoms with your doctor. If your doctor believes that you need to be tested for COVID-19, they should refer you to a COVID-19 testing site.

If you have any COVID-19 questions, call the Illinois COVID-19 hotline at (800) 889-3931 or

email dph.sick@illinois.gov. You may also want to consider signing up for updates from the Lake County Health Department at <http://bit.ly/lccovid-19>.

Sincerely,

Matt

Dr. Matt Barbini

Superintendent of Schools

Libertyville School District 70