



October 12, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

On Monday, October 12, 2020 the district was notified that a support staff employee at the middle school has tested positive for COVID-19. The Berrien County Health Department and Berrien Springs Public Schools worked together to complete the contact tracing process. As a result of the contact tracing process three (3) additional support staff employees and one (1) middle school student are being required to quarantine at home. There is no report of transmission of the virus at the middle school or anywhere in the school district as a result of the Health Department's case investigation.

The coordination and communication between our school district and the Berrien County Health Department continues to be smooth which is an ongoing testimony to the significant amount of planning and preparation our staff has invested in response to COVID-19 within our school district. We will work closely with the health department to provide them with accurate information needed to assist in future COVID-19 case investigations and the contact tracing process. The school district appreciates the support and guidance from our county health department.

The district continues to implement the safety protocols and procedural guidelines recommended by the Michigan Department of Health & Human Services, the Berrien County Health Department and the Berrien Springs Return to School Roadmap. A copy of the Roadmap is available on the school district's website at www.homeoftheshamrocks.org and a copy of the middle school's Return to School Plan is available for public viewing on the middle school website www.berrienspringsms.org. Follow the link titled "BSMS 2020 Fall Reopening Plan."

Our school district will follow all recommended and necessary precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19 at all times. Please be reminded of the importance of remaining vigilant in practicing the following safety protocols to mitigate the spread of all illness:

- Wearing a facial covering
- Practicing frequent hand washing
- Remaining home when sick
- Parents are reminded to screen students daily for potential symptoms of illness before sending them to school
- Staff are reminded to complete the daily health screener before reporting to school

Thank you for your ongoing efforts to support healthy practices as we respond to these events in our school district. I continue to be proud of the way our staff and students have demonstrated flexibility and cooperation during this very challenging time.

Sincerely,


David Eichberg, Superintendent