



RINGGOLD SCHOOL DISTRICT

400 Main Street
New Eagle, PA 15067

Randall S. Skrinjorich
Director of Operations and Financial Services
Acting Superintendent of Schools

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September 28, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Early this morning we were informed that two students at Ringgold Elementary School South tested positive for COVID-19. In response, the District immediately began following the protocols outlined in the District Health and Safety Plan. This included immediate calls and notifications from our Pandemic Coordinator to the Department of Health (DOH) for further instruction. While awaiting further instruction from the DOH we concurrently began drafting notification to parents, and began contact tracing to identify any students or staff who had been in close contact with the students who had tested positive. The District continues to use the definition put forth by the PDE and DOH when determining close contact. That definition stipulates that "close contact" is less than 6 feet, for more than 15 minutes, with or without a mask.

After reviewing our contact tracing, the DOH has directed that only individuals who have had "close contact" with the students who tested positive be self-quarantined for 14 days. Parents of students who meet that definition will be notified and those students will immediately shift to "Option 2" to continue learning from home. The DOH has not recommended closing any classrooms. We will remain in contact with the parents of students who have been considered to have been in "close contact" as well as with the staff who have also been considered to have been in "close contact" with those who tested positive.

At this time, the DOH has NOT recommended closing Ringgold Elementary School South or any classrooms at Ringgold South Elementary School. However, as per our Board approved Health and Safety Plan, as a result of the positive test, the District has taken the following actions:

- Deep cleaned and disinfected locations visited by the individual(s) who tested positive with COVID-19.
- Identified individual(s) who qualified as having had close contact with the infected individual(s).
- Communicated directly with all individuals identified as having had close contact with the individual(s) who tested positive for COVID-19.

As a reminder, please keep your child home from school if he/she is feeling ill for any reason. As it relates to COVID-19, the most common symptoms are cough, fever, loss of taste, and shortness of breath. Muscle aches, sore throat, and fatigue are also common. If your child exhibits any of the above-listed symptoms, please consult with your family medical provider immediately.

Our foremost priority is the safety of our students, staff, and community members. We will continue to keep you informed as we receive additional information.

Sincerely,



Randall Skrinjorich
Acting Superintendent

~ Preparing students today for the challenges of tomorrow ~