Fairport Harbor Exempted Village School District

329 Vine Street, Fairport Harbor, OH 44077

(440)-354-5400

info@fhevs.org Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow

January 4, 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,



Since our last notification before winter break, we have been made aware that fifteen individuals associated with Harding MS/Jr/High School and fourteen individuals associated with McKinley Elementary tested positive for Coronavirus (COVID-19).

The Fairport Harbor Exempted Village School District is committed to the safety and health of our students and staff. Fairport Harbor custodial staff continues to clean and disinfect all areas of our buildings daily. Though not mandatory, masks are encouraged and provided free of charge to anyone who requests them. Desk shields and plexiglass dividers are employed where practical and social distancing is practiced to the extent possible.

When made aware of a positive COVID-19 case, our school nurse works with the Lake County General Health District to investigate the case and identify any close contacts in accordance with the Lake County General Health District and the Ohio Department of Health's contact tracing and quarantine protocols. Those quarantine protocols can be seen here. If anyone contacts you as part of a COVID-19 investigation, please cooperate to help us properly complete our contact tracing responsibilities. If your child is not identified as close contact, you will not be contacted by any school official, and your child is welcome to attend school as always.

To help us accomplish this goal, please do not send your child to school if they display any of the COVID-19 website symptoms. If your child or anyone residing in the household tests positive for COVID-19, please contact our District Nurse, Heidi Bodi, at 440-354-5400 EXT. 305, or by email hbbodi@fhevs.org, as soon as possible. Should you have any further questions or concerns, please bring them to the attention of your building principal.

Thank you,

Domenic Paolo, Ph.D

Superintendent

Fairport Harbor EVSD

Dpaolo@fhevs.org

440-354-5400



Lake County General Health District

5966 Heisley Road Mentor, Ohio 44060



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Ron H. Graham, MPH, Health Commissioner www.lcghd.org

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October 25, 2021 LAKE COUNTY GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT

LAKE COUNTY GENERAL HEALTH DISTRICT AND GEAUGA PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUE UPDATED SCHOOL ISOLATION AND QUARANTINE GUIDELINES

Lake County General Health District (LCGHD) and Geauga County Public Health (GPH) issued updated school quarantine guidelines on October 22, 2021. "The ultimate goal is for students and teachers to stay in an in person educational environment while minimizing the spread of the COVID 19 virus," stated LCGHD Health Commissioner Ron Graham. To that end, LCGHD and GPH are suggesting the following recommendations for isolation and quarantine to local school districts in their jurisdictions, while the schools continue to seek advice from their legal counsel:

Isolation Recommendation:

- If a student is experiencing cough with or without shortness of breath, nasal congestion or runny nose, sore throat, body aches and chills, fever over 100.4 F, or vomiting/diarrhea that could be due to COVID 19 infection, the student should stay home from school and seek medical attention for possible COVID 19 testing, and directions for care.
- If a student has tested positive for COVID 19 and is having symptoms, the student should stay isolated from others for 10 days following onset of symptoms. If the student is asymptomatic but has tested positive, the student should stay isolated from others for 10 days following the date of the test.
- If a student who is asymptomatic AND has not been a close contact (having been closer than six feet, for at least 10 minutes total time within a 24-hour period) tests positive with an at-home rapid test that does not come with a telehealth visit, they should reach out to their doctor or other test providers to get an additional test before returning to school.

Quarantine Recommendation:

- If a student is notified that they have been in close contact with a person who tested positive for COVID 19 virus, they can continue to attend school if they are closely monitoring for symptoms and *are vigilant about mask wearing for the 14 days following exposure*. They should switch to isolation protocol if they start to experience any symptoms.
- If the student or parent feels the mask wearing cannot be done reliably, the student should remain at home.

Recent data from Lake and Geauga counties demonstrates that the rate of infection in quarantined students is lower than 5%. In the event of an outbreak, the health department will continue to work with the local school district to determine the most appropriate action at that time based, in part, on the number of cases and the degree of potential spread given other prevention measures in place.