



Southampton County Public Schools

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Dr. Gwendolyn P. Shannon, Division Superintendent

Dr. Deborah Goodwyn, Chair

Mr. James D. Pope, III, Vice Chair

February 10, 2021

Dear Parents:

Today, I was informed that a student at Riverdale Elementary School is a household contact (resides with someone who is positive for COVID-19) for coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The student is currently quarantined at home with his/her parents under advisement from the primary care provider and the Division Nurse Supervisor, Joyce Tomlin, RN. The student is not displaying symptoms, was last on campus on Monday, February 8, 2021, and rode the school bus home Monday afternoon. We are monitoring this student's health closely, and will notify the appropriate parties should any issues of public concern arise. The School Nurse, Angela Hatfield, LPN and the Division Nurse Supervisor, Joyce Tomlin, RN, are working with the local health department regarding this matter.

Parents should continue to monitor the health of their child(ren), as well as their health for COVID-19 symptoms. Children with COVID-19 generally have mild, cold-like symptoms, such as fever, runny nose, and cough. Vomiting and diarrhea have also been reported in some children.

Children with certain underlying medical conditions, such as chronic lung disease or moderate to severe asthma, serious heart conditions, or weak immune systems, might be at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19.

We will continue to utilize the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations on Reopening Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting Public Spaces to reduce viral transmission and keep our children and school personnel healthy and safe. Parents and students can assist with this effort by promoting healthy behaviors and following these practices:

- Stay home from school or work if sick, even if symptoms are mild.
- Wear a face covering in areas where physical distancing is difficult to maintain.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue (or sleeve), and then throw the tissue in the trash. Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60 percent alcohol.
- Avoid touching the eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces that are often touched.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Take care of your health overall. Stay current on your vaccinations, including the flu vaccine, eat well, and exercise to help your body stay resilient.

The Virginia Department of Health provides information about COVID-19 and frequently asked questions (FAQ) from parents and concerned family members. The CDC offers tips to keep children healthy during this time. The Virginia Department of Education produced COVID-19: A Parent Guide for School Age Children and provides additional considerations for students with disabilities, guidance for military families and social emotional wellness for parents and caregivers.

Yours in health,


Dr. Gwendolyn Shannon, Ph.D.
Division Superintendent

Helpful websites: <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov>
<http://www.cdc.gov>