



## Penn-Trafford School District

P.O. Box 530, Harrison City, PA 15636  
Phone: 724-744-4496 or 724-744-2121; Fax: 724-744-4016  
www.penntrafford.org  
*Effective, Efficient, Quality Education*

October 20, 2020

Parents and Staff,

The Penn-Trafford School District was notified of five additional positive cases of COVID-19 within the district. Three cases were staff members, one at McCullough Elementary, one at the High School and one staff member not associated with any school building. The student cases were at Trafford Middle School and the High School. Fortunately all of these cases were community transmissions that were contracted outside of the school so they are not attributed to those buildings. None of these individuals were in the schools while they were contagious. The High School, McCullough and Trafford Middle school will remain open. The school district will look at all cases individually and base closures on information received and the recommendations from the Department of Health and the Department of Education. It is important to consider if cases are community transmitted or school transmitted and if the positive COVID-19 students were in the building while they were contagious.

Contact tracing has been completed at all buildings. Only "close contacts" will be required to quarantine. The PA Department of Health defines a "close contact" as an individual who was within six feet of a positive case of COVID-19 for a duration of longer than fifteen consecutive minutes.

We certainly understand if you are not comfortable sending your child to school under these circumstances. You always have the option to choose remote instruction during this time. Please contact your principal if you wish to exercise this option.

We will continue to closely monitor the cases within our district and consult with the Pennsylvania Department of Health. We understand that parents want to know details of the positive COVID-19 individuals but we can not release confidential information due to privacy laws. Please note that while we have an obligation to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of all members of our community, we also have an obligation to protect the privacy of individuals affected by this virus.

It is important for students and staff to administer the [PTSD Symptom Screening Tool](#) every day. If you are symptomatic or may have been in close contact with a positive case you need to stay home and contact the school nurse immediately. Your cooperation with sharing information with our nurses and reporting any positive cases of COVID-19 within your family or close contacts is very important.

Sincerely,

Dr. Matthew Harris  
Superintendent

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**Matthew F. Harris, D.Ed.**  
*Superintendent*  
**Scott A. Inglese**  
*Assistant Superintendent*

**Brett N. Lago**  
*Director of Business Affairs/Board Secretary*  
**Gregory N. Karazsia**  
*Director of Student Learning Supports*

