



Penn-Trafford School District

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www.penntrafford.org
Effective, Efficient, Quality Education

October 7, 2020

Parents and Staff,

The Penn-Trafford School District was notified today of 5 additional positive cases of COVID-19 within the district. Two of the cases were students, one at the High School and one at Harrison Park Elementary. The other three cases were staff members at Level Green Elementary, McCullough Elementary and Sunrise Elementary.

This brings the total number of COVID-19 cases at Level Green Elementary to seven. Level Green Elementary School will remain closed for a total of 14 days and will reopen on Thursday, October 15th per the Pennsylvania Department of Education guidelines. All students at Level Green will continue to receive remote instruction.

Sunrise Elementary now has a total of two positive cases within 14 days which will require it to close for 14 days because of multiple buildings in the district with two or more cases. Sunrise will be closed effective Thursday, October 8th and will reopen on Thursday, October 22nd. All students at Sunrise will receive remote instruction. The principal will email parents information regarding remote instruction.

All other district schools will remain open per the Department of Health and Department of Education guidelines. Although it is not a Department of Health requirement, the itinerant (shared) staff that work at Sunrise and Level Green will not be permitted to work in other district buildings so that we can monitor them for symptoms.

The Department of Health has informed us of a significant increase in the number of COVID-19 cases within the county. We will continue to closely monitor the cases within our district and follow all directions provided by 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.

Contact tracing has been completed at Harrison Park, McCullough, Level Green and the High School. Unless an individual from those buildings has been personally contacted by the Department of Health or the School Nurse we can reasonably assure you that they have not been identified as a "close contact" of a positive case and would not need 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. Contact tracing is still being conducted at Sunrise Elementary. We will send another email to Sunrise parents and staff when contact tracing is complete.

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

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