



# Southern Westchester BOCES

BOARD OF COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

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As we continue through these days of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, we are continuing to gather information from employees and families and communicating important updates to our teammates. In discussion with the Westchester County Department of Health, we have been instructed to make our learning community members aware when a staff or student *receives a positive result for Coronavirus after being tested AND was symptomatic while at school or offices.*

Unfortunately, we received information today regarding a staff member who has tested positive. As you know, due to privacy laws, we cannot release the name of the individual affected. According to the Westchester County Department of Health, a staff member at Rye Lake Middle/High School (Rye Lake Campus Building 2) has now been confirmed as having an active case of COVID-19. Any student or staff who accessed the building during that week should follow the guidelines below:

**The Department of Health recommends that anyone who begins to feel ill to contact their family doctor/primary care provider for guidance. Additionally, the DOH recommends that all students, parents, faculty, and staff who were in the Rye Lake High School and Middle School building last week (March 9-13) immediately self-quarantine themselves with their family for fourteen days from the last possible date of contact, which was March 10. (Quarantine period March 11 – 24<sup>th</sup>) During this time, please monitor for any symptoms of illness and contact your family doctor/healthcare provider if necessary. Symptoms include a fever associated with a cough, shortness of breath and in latter stages chest congestion and tightness. Some people may also experience a headache.**

We recognize this news will be concerning to our students, families, and staff. Please direct any medical questions or concerns to your family doctor/healthcare provider.

In addition to working with your health care professional, a hotline number is available for questions. You can reach the hotline at 888-364-3065 to determine if you or a family member should be tested and to request a test if required.

We will continue to provide additional information as it becomes available. Please understand that we cannot provide any further information due to privacy laws. Thank you for your patience and understanding during this challenging time.