



PARENT NOTIFICATION

October 7, 2020

Dear Parents,

I am sharing this information with the entire school community under the auspices of transparency. Proactive communication has always been something important to us, as our parents and other stakeholders are part of the extended Bear Creek Community Charter School Family, and are a critical component to the overall success of our school.

Late last night we learned that a third-party provider who was last in our building on Friday, has tested positive for COVID-19. School leadership immediately contacted the Pennsylvania Department of Education's Rapid Response Team, who confirmed that our proposed plan of action was the appropriate response. We will remain in contact with them to ensure our follow-through is appropriate and meets the best practices identified by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

After applying CDC criteria, the decision was made to require one staff member and four students to quarantine outside of school for 14 days. The appropriate individuals have been contacted directly by school personnel. Neither the staff member nor any of the four students are exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 as of today, day 5 of the potential exposure

The classrooms impacted have been cleaned and sanitized three times since the infected individual was present in the building. No students or staff members are exhibiting any symptoms. If the situation changes in any way, I will share additional information with you.

Bear Creek Community Charter School has taken this course of action out of an abundance of caution for the health and safety of students and staff. We are following all CDC guidance. We have been and will continue to be in contact with the Pennsylvania Department of Health.

Because of ethical and legal issues relating to the Family Educational Privacy Rights Act ("FERPA") and the Health Insurance Privacy and Portability Act ("HIPPA"), we cannot and will not identify specific individuals or share personally identifiable information.

We understand that the ongoing pandemic and the overwhelming amount of information that is circulating can be daunting, and can cause unnecessary stress and anxiety for students, parents and staff. We want to ensure all our stakeholders that we continue to plan in advance for various scenarios, and to make decisions based on the most current data available, and with the best interests of all of our stakeholders in mind.

Jim Smith