

@HSDHealth Message “Individual Tested Positive, Tatem School male, cohort B” _____
Sent 10/23/2020

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Staff:

This letter is to inform you that an individual at **J.F. Tatem Elementary School has tested positive for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19).**

The District received verbal confirmation from the Camden County Department of Health of this positive case at approximately 12:15 PM today. Contact tracers will be using timelines based on the onset of symptoms and dates of positive test results. If there are individuals identified as close-contacts, whether the contacts happened in school or elsewhere, they will be notified by the district and/or the Camden County Department of Health.

Here are all of the details that we are permitted to share at this time:

- The student is a juvenile male (under age 10) in Cohort B.
- The student was last in school on Friday, October 16.
- The student received notice of a positive COVID test on Tuesday, October 20. According to guidelines, there is a “look back” period beginning two days prior to a positive test, which in this case is Saturday, October 17.
- Based on currently available information, this student did not likely contract the virus in school.

The District is coordinating closely with public health officials and following CDC, state, and local health department guidelines in order to assure the health and safety of our community.

Cleaning and disinfecting of all exposed areas are completed daily. The school is also taking extra precautions to prevent the introduction and spread of viruses and other germs and is cleaning frequently touched surfaces daily. The status of this situation is fluid, and we are monitoring it closely.

We understand the level of concern regarding COVID-19. We encourage parents and students to continue following the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention promoted safeguards, such as:

- Staying home when you are sick;
- Washing hands often with soap for at least 20 seconds;
- Covering coughs and sneezes and properly disposing of tissues;
- Limiting close contact with people who are sick and not sharing food, drinks, and utensils;
- Practicing social distancing (staying at least 6 feet apart);
- Wearing a face covering while in school, ([additional mask guidance](#));
- Continuing to monitor your health for symptoms.

As always, we appreciate our community’s support and cooperation. We have shared all of the information that we are permitted to share publicly at this time. If there is additional information to share, we will do so under the guidance of our medical team and the Camden County Department of Health. You can assist us by remaining vigilant but sensible in your approach to dealing with this health concern. Below are some resources that might be helpful.

RESOURCES

- a. NJDOH COVID-19 Information for Communities and the General Public: https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/covid2019_community.shtml
- b. Get the Facts about Coronavirus: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

c. Symptoms of COVID-19:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptomstesting/symptoms.html>

d. Testing: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/testing/index.html>;

<https://covid19.nj.gov/pages/testing>

e. How to Protect Yourself:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-gettingsick/prevention.html>

f. What to Do if You Are Sick:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/stepswhen-sick.html>

Sincerely,
Chuck Klaus
Superintendent of Schools