



Brooks County Schools

Pledge 2 Inspire and Educate Every Student

Home of the Trojans

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SUPERINTENDENT
Vickie Reed

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December 17, 2020

The Brooks County School System is committed to following Center for Disease Control (CDC) and Department of Public Health (DPH) Guidelines for Contact Tracing. Contact Tracing begins immediately upon notification of a positive case. For COVID-19, a close contact is someone who is within 6 feet of an infected person for a total of 15 minutes. An infected person can spread COVID-19 starting from 48 hours (or 2 days) before the person has any symptoms or tests for COVID-19. Parents of exposed students are notified in writing and phone call by the school and provided DPH documentation outlining procedures for return to school.

In accordance with the most recent DPH guidelines, close contacts without symptoms may end quarantine after Day 10 from last exposure but should continue monitoring for symptoms for a full 14 days. Close contacts who develop symptoms before Day 10, but who test negative must remain in quarantine for at least 10 days AND until 24 hours after fever resolution and improvement in other symptoms, whichever is longer. Close contacts who develop symptoms between Days 11 – 14 but who test negative must remain in quarantine until 24 hours after fever resolution and improvement in other symptoms.

During the week of December 14, Brooks County Schools reported 8 students and 1 staff member who had tested positive for COVID-19 and 55 who had been directly exposed and required into quarantine at home. The active COVID-19 cases for the face-to-face students during the week has been the highest number of cases the district has seen in one week since the school year began. Brooks County Schools is a strong proponent of face-to-face learning and are very proud that we have been able to offer parents the options of face-to-face, virtual, hybrid and hard copy packets (for those who do not have internet service). The school system plans to continue to offer these same options to parents when school resumes in January.

Please remember that Brooks County Schools has no control over what happens outside of school. Students who have attended gatherings or parties outside of school where social distancing and mask wearing are not practiced may have contracted the virus from these non-school related events and has resulted in many other students who have not attended outside gatherings into virtual learning and quarantining at home.

On behalf of Brooks County Schools, we are asking that we all continue to work together to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in our community and schools, which will allow us to keep our schools open for face-to-face instruction.

Our plans are to follow the school calendar and reopen face-to-face instruction on January 5, 2020. Brooks County Schools are committed to tracking the COVID-19 community spread. Decisions will be made on the data received and parents and community will be notified if the school schedule changes.

I want to personally thank all administrators, staff, parents, and community members for your continued support of the Brooks County School System. With your support, we can continue to reach our goal of "Pledge to Inspire and Educate Every Student."

I hope everyone has a Merry Christmas!!!!

Vickie Reed, EdD.

Superintendent

Brooks County Schools

"Pledge to Inspire and Educate Each Child"