

8/17/2020

Positive COVID-19 Case in Bixby Schools

On Saturday, August 15, district administrators were made aware of a Bixby teacher who had tested positive for COVID-19. The teacher was experiencing minor symptoms and had taken a test as a precaution earlier in the week. The employee teaches sixth grade at North Intermediate School.

In accordance with the district's COVID protocols, the teacher immediately began a 10-day quarantine from the date of onset of symptoms. Additionally, five other BPS teachers at the same site were deemed to have been in *close contact* with this teacher over the past five days. Close contact is defined as being less than six feet away from the infected person for more than 15 minutes without a mask/face covering. Despite having no symptoms or a positive test result, the five teachers have also begun a 14-day quarantine period from the last date of exposure with their colleague.

Rather than ask students to stay home for distance learning, the district opted to provide substitute teachers in the classrooms, while also connecting the regular teachers remotely with students in their classrooms for a portion of the day. Students were then able to attend their elective courses and experience a relatively typical school day, including lunchtime and recess with their peers. All teacher classrooms and meeting spaces received a complete disinfecting treatment over the weekend prior to any students entering the building today.

In keeping with the district's notification procedures, a letter was sent to all staff at this school on Saturday evening alerting them to a positive case in their building. Families with a child scheduled in any of the teachers' classes were notified by text message and letter on Sunday.

With any future incidents, according to our Return to Learn Protocol, BPS will notify those individuals **who are directly affected or may have come in contact with a student or staff member testing positive**, pursuant to health department guidelines and federal privacy laws.

