



# Bloomington Public Schools

Deb Paquette  
Superintendent

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October 8, 2020

Dear parents:

Today, we received notification from the Van Buren County Health Department that someone associated with our school district – an employee, has tested positive for COVID-19. While we must protect the privacy of the person involved, we believe it is best to communicate transparently with you so you can make well-informed decisions for your family. Thankfully, due to classroom cohorting, along with other safety measure in place at the school, classroom exposure is limited to a very small number of students. Your child's potential exposure is limited to one person and the likelihood of spread is extremely contained. If your child had direct exposure for more than 15 consecutive minutes within 6 feet of the positive person, you will hear from the health department. If your child is required to quarantine for 14 days you will receive a phone call from Mr. Dygert as well.

There is nothing more important to Bloomington Schools than the safety and health of our students, our staff and their families. We are working directly with county health officials to address this situation. They have recommended we share the following with you: COVID-19 is transmitted through person-to-person contact and through the exchange of respiratory droplets. As more cases are being confirmed across the state, including in our community, it is important to be sensible, but to also be vigilant. Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough and shortness of breath. If you or any member of your family exhibit these symptoms, please contact your medical provider for advice immediately. Symptoms usually appear 2-14 days after exposure. The Van Buren County Health Department will be contacting you of your child was directly exposed.

Bloomington Schools will continue to clean and disinfect surfaces inside all district schools, including Bloomington Elementary and your child's classroom. As more cases are being confirmed across the state, it is important to remain vigilant. The CDC recommends the following best practices to help prevent the spread of this global pandemic:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid close contact with those who are sick.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Avoid touching your eyes, mouth and nose.
- Disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects.

*"Empowering all students to maximize their potential."*

Bloomington Middle and High School  
629 E Kalamazoo St  
Bloomington, MI 49026  
(269) 521-3910

Bloomington Elementary School  
307 E Willow St  
Bloomington, MI 49026  
(269) 521-3935

Pullman Elementary School  
5582 South Ave  
Pullman, MI 49450  
(269) 236-5235

- Stay at home, if possible.
- If you must go out, practice social distancing, leaving at least six feet between you and other people.
- Avoid gatherings that include more than 10 people.

If you would like to learn more about COVID-19, the following links are reliable and accurate sources for information:

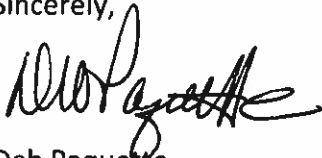
[CDC COVID-19 Information](#)  
[Talking to Children About COVID-19](#)

[Michigan.gov/coronavirus](#)  
[Vbcassdhd.org/coronavirus](#)

Our greatest priority is the safety of our students, staff and community members. Please continue to take necessary precautions to protect yourself and those around you. It is important to remember that children are greatly influenced by the reactions of adults when facing difficult circumstances. I encourage everyone to remain calm and to be empathic and respectful to those affected.

We are grateful for the opportunity to serve you and your family, especially as we face this challenging situation together. Thank you for your support!

Sincerely,



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