October 12, 2020

Dear Geneva Teachers, Staff and School Community,

Geneva Area City Schools is committed to the safety and health of our students and staff. We want to inform you that that we have recently received information about at least **one confirmed case of COVID-19 in a student at Geneva High School.** The 10th grade student was not in school last week (week of October 5th) but did participate on Monday (10/5) and Tuesday (10/6) with one of the high school athletic teams. The student received a positive test and we were notified on Saturday evening. Cleaning and disinfecting has been completed.

Geneva High School will continue normal operation at this time. We are working closely with the Ashtabula County Health Department and **anyone identified as a close contact will be notified by the health department as a part of COVID-19 investigation.**

COVID-19 is a contagious respiratory disease that is thought to spread mainly person-to-person from people who are in close contact. Generally close contact is defined as being within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more. Symptoms of COVID-19 typically appear 2-14 days after exposure and may include fever/chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea. For more information, visit: www.coronavirus.ohio.gov. or call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634)

## How You Can Help

Be proactive about reducing the number of interactions that students and staff have with one another by practicing social distancing (staying at least 6 feet apart) to limit the spread of COVID-19. In addition to physical distancing, these important tools help to prevent the spread of COVID-19:

- Stay home when you are sick.

- Wear a mask or face covering while in public places or if people who don't live with you must visit your home.

- Avoid unnecessary gatherings with people who don't live in your home.

- Avoid sharing food, drinks, or utensils.

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Sing the Happy Birthday song twice to help know when it has been 20 seconds. If soap and water

are not available, use alcohol-based hand sanitizers that contain at least 60% alcohol.

- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue, and then dispose of the tissue and wash your hands immediately. If you do not have a tissue, use your sleeve, not your hands, to cover coughs and sneezes. If you are experiencing cough or congestion, consider staying home and seeking medical care.

- Regularly clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipes. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends cleaning of frequently touched surfaces with household cleaners and EPA-registered disinfectants that are appropriate for the surface, following label instructions. A simple bleach solution may also be utilized.

If you have any questions, contact *Geneva High School* at *(440) 466-4831* or the Ashtabula County Health Department at *(440) 576-6010*. Thank you for helping to keep people safe and to slow the spread of COVID-19 in our community and school.

Your mental health is just as important as your physical health. If you or a loved one are experiencing anxiety related to the coronavirus pandemic, help is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Call the COVID-19 CareLine at 1-800-720-9616.

Sincerely,

*Eric M. Kujala, Superintendent*

*Geneva Area City Schools*



**COVID-19 Symptoms**
Help prevent the spread of Covid-19

*You may have COVID-19 if you have:*

- Fever or chills
- A cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache

- Sore throat
- Loss of taste or smell
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

**Symptoms may be mild or severe and may appear two to 14 days after exposure to the virus.**

MIKE DEWINE
GOVERNOR OF OHIO

Ohio | Department of Health

coronavirus.ohio.gov