



Notice to Families and Staff
October 29, 2020

Please find below a statement from Galesburg-Augusta Community School District and Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services Department regarding the recent COVID-19 positive test.

Today, the Galesburg-Augusta Community School District learned of a high school student who has tested positive for COVID-19. As in every situation, close contacts have been identified. Please know, whenever a student that tests positive has siblings within the district, all members of the household are asked to quarantine.

Total COVID-19 positive cases per building, staff, students and the district totals are now available on our website under "[COVID-19 Dashboard](#)."

We are seeing widespread community transmission of Covid-19 within Kalamazoo County. Because schools can quickly contract trace and because we follow rigid mitigation strategies, this exposure is not necessarily happening in our school buildings. Most are happening in social gatherings outside of school. We urge families to minimize your contact with those outside your immediate household. If we do that, we will be much more likely to continue having school open for learning. We recognize the impact of having to quarantine our students when their families need to work; it is significant. We *all* need to do our part so that children can be in school.

Galesburg-Augusta Community School District works closely with the Kalamazoo County Health & Community Services Department on all public health recommendations for the district, the specific school buildings, and those identified as affected individuals. As a reminder to parents and guardians:

If your child is ill, please keep them home. If he/she develops signs and symptoms of COVID-19, they should be kept home, and the parent or guardian should contact their child's Primary Care Physician.

COVID-19 is a contagious viral illness that can occur 2-14 days after exposure to an individual with the virus. Exposure, also known as close contact, includes being within six feet of an infected person for 15 minutes or longer. The virus is spread by droplets in the air and sometimes on surfaces that come inside a person's mouth, nose, or eyes. Based on available evidence, the symptoms of COVID-19 are similar in children and adults. However, children generally show no symptoms or mild symptoms. Reported symptoms include cold-like symptoms, such as fever, sore throat, muscle pain, chills, new loss of taste or smell, feeling out of breath, and cough. Vomiting and diarrhea have also been reported.