

Iroquois County CUSD #9

1411 W. Lafayette Street
Watseka, IL 60970

Dr. David Andriano, Superintendent

Phone 815.432.4931

david.andriano@watekaschools.org

815.432.6889 Fax

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Dear Families and Staff:

This letter is to inform you that an individual(s) at Nettie Davis, Wanda Kendall and WCHS have tested positive for COVID-19. We have coordinated our efforts with the Iroquois County Department of Public Health (ICDPH) to identify and monitor individuals who have had recent contact with the COVID-19 positive individual(s) to prevent further spread within our school and community. The date of the occurrence was Monday, November 2nd for Nettie Davis and Wanda Kendall and Friday, October 30th for WCHS. **Based on the information received from the ICDPH, the exposure on this date has been determined to be a low-risk exposure. Through contact tracing, anyone at risk to this low-exposure occurrence will be contacted personally.**

The health and safety of all of our students and staff is our highest priority, and we recognize the uncertainty and concern regarding the evolving coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. We are following guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as well as the state and local health departments for best practices and procedures to protect everyone's health.

We will continue to enforce safe practices to prevent, promptly identify, and respond to potential COVID-19 cases, as follows:

- Students and staff who are ill with COVID-like symptoms will promptly be placed in a separate supervised area away from others until they can be sent home.
- Students are required to wear face coverings at all times, as previously directed and per school policy.
- Staff are required to wear face coverings at all times while in contact with children and other staff in the facility.
- We are continuously sanitizing high-touch surfaces including door handles, stair rails, sink faucets, etc.
- We have removed items/materials that cannot be properly or frequently disinfected.
- We are teaching students the importance of face coverings, social distancing, and proper handwashing:
 - Students are discouraged from sharing personal items, e.g., water bottles.
 - Students are learning new ways to greet each other without touching.
 - Students are reminded to avoid touching their eyes, nose and mouth, and to cover coughs and sneezes.
 - Students are reminded to wash their hands frequently and properly, following CDC guidelines on handwashing.

As we receive more information from the Department of Public Health and other entities, we will implement additional recommendations and guidelines.

As always, everyone should monitor their health and stay at home if they develop symptoms[1]. Sick persons should contact their health care provider to determine if testing is needed. Anyone who develops severe symptoms[2] should seek medical care immediately. If your child has had close contact with a known case of COVID-19, keep the child at home and notify your primary healthcare provider, school, and your local health department. Students with these symptoms will not be admitted back to school without proper documentation or clearance from the Unit 9 Nurse.

We are committed to providing your son/daughter and our staff with a safe and healthy environment. Thank you for your understanding and ongoing cooperation with our COVID prevention policies and procedures as we work to help protect your children, your families, and our staff and their families. For any questions or concerns, please contact us at 815.432.4931.

Sincerely,

Dr. David Andriano

Unit 9 Superintendent

[1] 1 Symptoms of COVID-19 include: fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea.

[2] 2 Severe symptoms of COVID-19 include: trouble breathing, persistent pain or pressure in the chest, new confusion, inability to wake or stay awake, bluish lips or face.