



VERNON TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
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September 28, 2020

Dear Vernon Parents/Guardians:

This letter is to provide additional correspondence regarding the letter that was sent to district families on Friday, September 25, 2020. That item of correspondence indicated a positive COVID case at Vernon Township High School. We want to take the time to reiterate some very important information that is necessary for families to receive and review.

- All parties who have been instructed to quarantine have received appropriate correspondence from the High School and/or the Department of Health
- All protocols that the Department of Health required the school district to follow have been adhered to

We were notified on Friday that there were two positive cases on the Gold Team, that were related to each other. Since the two cases **were related**, the school is **not required** to close for fourteen days. Due to the date the COVID test was administered, the infectious period, and the absence of one of the students from VTHS, the Sussex County Department of Health **provided written guidance** to Vernon Township High School which indicated that quarantine procedures were to be utilized for **one student, not both**.

Navigating through a global pandemic is challenging for parents, students, teachers, and our community. It is even more difficult when we are required to rely on an outside organization in regards to closing schools, classrooms, quarantine procedures, or initiating contact tracing. It is essential, however, that we continue to rely on the Sussex County Department of Health for every facet of operations during a public health crisis. This may mean that the information shared with the community is limited. We need to remind everyone that students, teachers, and staff deserve the right to privacy and respect as we navigate through these ongoing issues.

The Vernon Township School District continues to coordinate with the Sussex County Department of Public Health Nursing and is following CDC, state, and local health department guidance in order to assure the health and safety of our community.

The highest levels of cleaning and disinfecting of all exposed areas have occurred.

As always, we appreciate your support and cooperation. You can assist us by remaining vigilant but sensible in your approach to dealing with this health concern. Should you have any questions about this situation, please feel free to contact Ms. Kim Muller at kmuller@vtsd.com, Dr. McKay at cmckay1@vtsd.com or Ms. D'Avino at kdavino@vtsd.com.

Sincerely,

Karen D'Avino

Ms. Karen D'Avino

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Dr. Charles McKay