

GLEN ROCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Dear Parent, Guardians, and Students:

This letter is to inform you that three students at Glen Rock High School have tested positive for Coronavirus (COVID-19). Two of the students are Hybrid schedule students (A Day grouping), and one student is a Remote Learning student. Immediately after being notified of these cases, in compliance with guidance from the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH), the district conferred with the school doctor, the Borough Office of Emergency Management, and other school and local officials. Subsequently, cleaning and disinfecting of all exposed areas has been completed.

Two of the students were present in school on Thursday, October 15. District Contact Tracers will be in communication with students and families as necessary.

We also know that two of the students were present for the October 17 PSAT; one student was seated in the cafeteria, and the other student was seated in one of the Media Center classrooms. Be informed that all students who took the PSAT were seated a safe distance from each other and were masked for the duration of the testing administration. At no time was any PSAT participant or proctor in "close contact" with the two infected students. As per the [New Jersey Department of Health guidelines](#) (see pages 11-13), "*Close contact is defined as being within 6 feet of someone with suspected or known COVID-19 for at least 10 consecutive minutes.*" As outlined by these same guidelines, there is no mandate or requirement for any student or proctor who participated in the October 17 PSAT to quarantine or be excluded from school.

As per the New Jersey Department of Health, schools are only required to close when there is an outbreak. An outbreak in school settings is defined as *... "two or more laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases among students or staff with onsets within a 14-day period, who are epidemiologically linked, do not share a household, and were not identified as close contacts of each other in another setting during standard case investigation or contact tracing."* Although there are three confirmed cases, they do not originate from multiple households.

Out of an abundance of caution, and in full accordance with the New Jersey Department of Health guidelines, the high school will operate **virtually** for October 19 and 20 so that contact tracing can be conducted. The high school will resume in-person classes on Thursday, October

22 with cohort B. Cohort A's return to in person instruction will be Friday, October 23. All after school activities can and will be held during this period. The middle school and all elementary schools will remain on their regular schedule. As a reminder, October 21 is a district-wide virtual learning day.

We understand the level of concern regarding COVID-19. We encourage parents and students to continue following the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention promoted safeguards, such as:

- Staying home when you are sick;
- Washing hands often with soap for at least 20 seconds;
- Covering coughs and sneezes and properly disposing of tissues;
- Limiting close contact with people who are sick and not sharing food, drinks and utensils;
- Practicing social distancing (staying at least 6 feet apart);
- Wearing a face covering while in school; and
- Continuing to monitor your health for symptoms.

As always, we appreciate our community's support and cooperation. You can assist us by remaining vigilant in your approach to dealing with this health concern. If you have any questions about COVID-19 symptoms, or any other concerns for you or your child, please consult your physician. Should you have any questions about this situation, please feel free to contact your child's school nurse. Below are some resources that might be helpful.

RESOURCES

1. NJDOH COVID-19 Information for Communities and the General Public:
https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/covid2019_community.shtml
2. Get the Facts about Coronavirus:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
3. Symptoms of COVID-19: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>
4. Testing: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/testing/index.html>;
<https://covid19.nj.gov/pages/testing>
5. How to Protect Yourself:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>
6. What to Do if You Are Sick:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html>

Sincerely,



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