



## WHITMORE LAKE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

8845 Main St., Whitmore Lake, MI 48189

Phone: 734.449.4464 | Fax: 734.449.5336 | [www.wlps.net](http://www.wlps.net)

Exceptional, Personalized Education

---

Superintendent Tom DeKeyser

10/6/2020

Dear WLPS Families,

We were made aware of a positive COVID-19 case at Whitmore Lake Elementary School. Following protocol, we immediately reported this information to the Washtenaw County Health Department, and we are currently cooperating with them to determine if any additional students or staff need to go into quarantine.

In an abundance of caution, **Preschool-12th grade will temporarily move to remote learning for Wednesday, October 7, 2020.** This initial short term dismissal allows time for the WCHD to gain a better understanding of the COVID-19 case and for custodial staff to deep clean and disinfect our facilities. We understand how hard it is for families to make alternate arrangements on short notice. We will notify you of our instructional plan for the rest of the week by noon tomorrow.

- Since the positive case is at the elementary level, per the recommendation of the health department, all athletic practices and competitions will go on as scheduled.
- Kids Club will be closed.
- Meal pick up for Virtual Academy students will occur as scheduled.
- Any student who is in need of food for tomorrow can fill out [this form](#). A meal package will be prepared for you and can be picked up Wednesday, 10/7 from 10-11 a.m. in front of Whitmore Lake Elementary School.

In accordance with HIPAA and FERPA laws, health information is private, and we will not be providing specifics about the case. However, please remember we will always keep the safety of our students and staff at the forefront of our decision making.

The Washtenaw County Health Department is investigating to determine who is considered a “close contact” of the person who tested positive for COVID-19. A “close contact” is defined as someone who was within 6 feet of the positive person for at least 15 minutes.

Parents of close contacts will be contacted directly by the Washtenaw County Health Department and will receive instructions on what to do next, which may include assisting with the contact tracing efforts, quarantining or isolating, and/or contacting their primary care physician. (Case investigation may be done by a neighboring health department if the positive individual lives in a different county. We will still be in close contact with Washtenaw County Health Department for guiding our actions.)



## WHITMORE LAKE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

8845 Main St., Whitmore Lake, MI 48189

Phone: 734.449.4464 | Fax: 734.449.5336 | [www.wlps.net](http://www.wlps.net)

Exceptional, Personalized Education

---

Superintendent Tom DeKeyser

If you are **OR** your student is deemed a close contact of a person positive for COVID-19 while at school or socially, you will be contacted by the health department as part of their investigation.

**We ask that all students and staff fully cooperate with WCHD so that the school can take appropriate action based on this specific situation and prevent further spread of the disease in our school and community.** Failure to provide accurate information in a timely manner to the health department may put the health and safety of others at risk.

If you are contacted by the Washtenaw County Health Department and placed under quarantine or isolation for a COVID-19 infection, please let me know and provide the letter that was given to you by the health department. Students placed under quarantine or isolation will participate in remote learning until they are allowed to return to the classroom.

The health department must complete their contact tracing investigation for us to determine next steps. Again, we urge all students and staff to fully cooperate with WCHD should they reach out to you.

As a parent or guardian, we know you are eager to find ways to protect your children and family from COVID19. Please talk to your children about frequent hand washing, covering coughs and sneezes, avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth, wearing a face covering in public, and cleaning frequently-touched surfaces at home. Most importantly, keep your children home and stay at home yourself, if you are sick. Thank you for your help in reinforcing good hygiene practices and for your patience and flexibility. We will await direction from public health officials on when it is safe to reopen school.

We are all in this together.

Sincerely,

Tom DeKeyser

Superintendent

Whitmore Lake Public Schools

[tom.dekeyser@wlps.net](mailto:tom.dekeyser@wlps.net) | 734.449.4464