## CHEBOYGAN• OTSEGO •PRESQUE ISLE EDUCATIONAL SERVICE DISTRICT

6065 Learning Lane (231) 238-9394



Indian River, MI 49749 (231) 238-8551 (fax)

January 28, 2022

Dear Mr. Shirley's Classroom Families,

An individual at the COPESD Gaylord SCI Mr. Shirley's classroom has tested positive for COVID-19 and your child may have been exposed. COVID-19 is a respiratory illness caused by a virus. It is easily spread from person to person when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks. Symptoms of COVID-19 may present as a fever, cough, sore throat, runny nose, or loss of taste or smell. Symptoms may be mild but sometimes result in difficulty breathing, severe fatigue, or confusion.

At this time, healthy, asymptomatic students and staff will not be required to be excluded/quarantined due to school exposure under the following conditions:

- 1. The student does not have any COVID-19 symptoms
- 2. The student is not currently in isolation after testing positive for COVID.
- 3. The student is not currently excluded/quarantined for an exposure to COVID outside of the school setting.
- 4. The student's exposure to COVID was not related to an identified outbreak.

Your child may have been exposed; therefore, please:

- Continue to monitor your child/yourself for COVID-19 symptoms, including minor cold symptoms, for 10 days following this notice.
  - o If your child develops any symptoms, please inform the school, seek testing for COVID-19 infection, and keep your child at home while ill.
- It is recommended that all students/staff exposed to COVID-19 wear a mask in school following their exposure for the full 10 days.
- Consider getting your child tested 5-7 days after the exposure as he/she could be infected without any symptoms. This is considered surveillance testing, which helps monitor the spread of COVID-19 and does not require that a student stay home with the test results pending, unless they are showing symptoms of COVID-19.

Rapid testing may also be available at your school, including any applicable school based health clinics. Other community testing options are available throughout the health department jurisdiction. To view locations and testing information, click here.

Vaccination continues to be one of our best protection methods to reduce an individual's risk of contracting COVID-19 as well as the best method of reducing the impact of COVID-19 in our community. All three vaccines are safe and effective against COVID-19 and the variants. It is

recommended for everyone 5 years of age or older to be vaccinated. It is also recommended to get a booster dose 6 months after your primary series for Pfizer and Moderna, and 2 months after your primary series for J&J.

If you are interested in scheduling an appointment to immunize your child, please call the health department at 1-800-432-4121 to schedule an appointment, visit their website to self-schedule at <a href="http://www.nwhealth.org/covid19main.html">http://www.nwhealth.org/covid19main.html</a>, call your child's pediatrician, or check with your local pharmacy.

For any COVID-19 related questions, please call the health department's Public Health Information Line at 1-800-386-5959.

Take care,

Mr. Jamie R. Huber, Superintendent

## For more COVID-19 information/resources:

Self-monitoring, quarantine, and isolation for COVID-19

CDC - COVID-19 Families & Children

MDHHS - Coronavirus Website

Health Department of Northwest Michigan COVID-19 Homepage

Know Your Treatment Options for COVID-19 | FDA