



**Hillsboro Community
Unit School District #3**

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COVID Update Message to Parents

Wednesday, October 21, 2020

10:00 a.m.

COVID-Positive Teacher at Beckemeyer
and Two More Students at HHS

A second grade teacher at Beckemeyer Elementary tested positive for COVID on Tuesday. Her entire class (minus two students who had been absent) have been asked to quarantine. While it is NOT the case that a COVID-positive teacher will necessarily cause an entire student group to quarantine, it is the likely outcome in the lower grades where teachers find it very difficult to maintain distance from students while teaching. As you have likely noticed, despite relatively large numbers of student quarantines, we have had no teachers quarantined up to this point. This is because most teachers have a designated space in which they work and from which they teach. They try to minimize the amount of time they are outside of that space. This is easier for some than others based on their teaching assignment and age of students, with those that teach our youngest and neediest students having the greatest challenge.

This is our first known case of a COVID-positive teacher at school.

Two more HHS students have tested positive for COVID. One had been in attendance during the 48 hours that preceded the positive test, while the other had not. The result of the contact tracing investigation for the first was that 13 additional high school students have been asked to quarantine.

This brings the total number of known COVID-positive students to date to 13.

We are committed to providing our students and 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 our students, staff, and families. For any questions or concerns, please contact us at (217) 532-2942.

The Hillsboro Community School District fosters a student-centered culture with high expectations for each student to reach his or her full potential.