



**Hillsboro Community
Unit School District #3**

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David E. Powell, Superintendent

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COVID Update Message to Parents and Employees

Friday, August 20, 2021

2:00 p.m.

Two More Student COVID Cases

A Beckemeyer kindergarten student tested positive for COVID on Thursday. Contact tracing identified 9 close contacts at school. Parents of all 9 have elected to participate in our Test to Stay protocol. These students were tested today and all 9 received negative results. Per the recommended protocol, these students will be tested every other day during a 10-day watch period.

A high school student tested positive for COVID on Thursday. 14 students were identified as close contacts during the school day. 8 of those students have been vaccinated. The other 6 will either need to quarantine or test. The positive student is also part of our volleyball team. One teammate has been vaccinated and one has had COVID in the last 90 days. All other teammates will either need to quarantine or participate in our Test to Stay protocol.

TEST TO STAY PROTOCOL

As an alternative to quarantining, students may participate in a "Test to Stay" program. If the student and parents agree for the student to participate in rapid testing on days 1, 3, 5, and 7, the student may attend in-person during the 10-day watch period. The BinaxNOW test will be used for this monitoring program. Negative test results every other day, and remaining symptom free will result in an unvaccinated close contact being able to stay in school during the 10 days.

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.