



WEST LONG BRANCH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Administrative Offices

Frank R. Alfano, Ed.D.
Interim Superintendent of Schools

Corey Lowell SFO
School Business Administrator

January 11, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians:

This letter is to inform you that four new additional individuals at the West Long Branch School District (WLBSD) have **tested positive on January 10th and 11th for Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)**. These new individuals (4) who tested positive (over the weekend) had direct and prolonged contact with **45** additional people within the WLBSD. ("Direct Contact" is currently defined by the CDC as being within six feet for 15 cumulative minutes or longer.) The District is coordinating closely with public health officials and following CDC, state, and local health department guidance in order to assure the health and safety of our community. **As a result of these positive confirmations over the past week (eight in six days – including the four over the weekend) and out of an abundance of caution and as per the Department of Health's recommendation, WLBSD will continue to remain in remote/virtual instruction as of January 11th until Friday, January 22nd. We anticipate a return to in-person instruction on Monday, January 25th.**

According to our restart and recovery plan, you will be notified of any positive COVID-19 cases for staff or students that occur as we move forward. Cleaning and disinfecting of all exposed areas have been completed. The school is also taking precautions to prevent the introduction and spread of viruses and other germs and is cleaning frequently touched surfaces daily. The status of this situation is fluid, and we are monitoring it closely.

We understand the level of concern regarding COVID-19. We encourage parents and students to continue following the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html) 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, but sensible in your approach to dealing with this health concern. Should you have any questions about this situation, please feel free to contact your principal either by phone at 732-222-5900 or by their email.

Sincerely,

Frank Alfano

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Interim Superintendent of Schools