

Dear Staff or Parents/Guardians,

On October 24, the Bethlehem Area School District was notified of a positive case of coronavirus (COVID-19) at Northeast Middle School.

School leadership, in conjunction with local public health officials, has determined that there is no need to close our school at this time.  The classrooms and spaces used by the individual were cleaned and disinfected according to CDC guidelines.

**Staff members and students who may have come into close contact (any individual within 6 feet of an infected individual for at least 15 minutes) with the individual will be directly contacted by the Bethlehem Health Bureau and/or staff of the BASD Health Services Department with instructions to self-quarantine.**

Parents, students, and staff are encouraged to do the following to help prevent the spread of illness at home, in school and at work:

* Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
* Wash your hands frequently.
* Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
* Stay home when you are sick.
* Cover your mouth and nose with the inside of your elbow when you cough and sneeze.
* Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
* Practice social distancing and wear a mask.

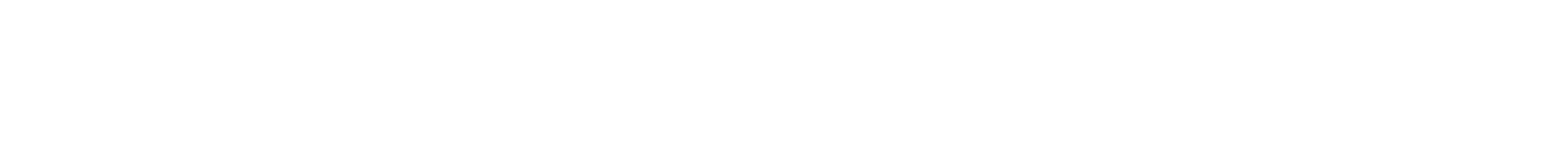
Please follow the guidelines below to determine if you (child or staff) should stay home:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Column A  If you checked 1 or more symptoms, student/staff should stay home from school/work | Column B  If you checked 2 or more symptoms, student/staff should stay home from school/work |
| ☐Fever (100°F or higher)  ☐Cough  ☐Shortness of breath  ☐Difficulty breathing  ☐Nausea or vomiting  ☐Diarrhea  ☐Lack of smell or taste  (without congestion) | |  |  | | --- | --- | | ☐Sore throat  ☐Chills  ☐Muscle pain | ☐Headache  ☐Congestion or runny nose | |

The Bethlehem Area School District will continue to monitor the situation and will provide updates as needed. Please know the health and safety of our students and staff is our upmost priority. If you have any questions or concerns about this information, students/parents please contact Dr. Kim Brannan, Supervisor of Health Services at kzsitekbrannan@basdschools.org and staff contact Carole Hall at chall@basdschools.org.

We thank you for your continued cooperation and support.

Sincerely,



Dr. Kim Brannan DNP CSN

Supervisor of Health Services