

November 2, 2020

Dear School Building Community,

Northwest Local Schools is committed to the safety and health of our students and staff. We are working closely with the Stark County Health Department to try and keep COVID-19 out of our schools. We want to inform you that we have recently received information about at least one student or staff who has tested positive or been diagnosed with COVID-19 in your child's building.

Cleaning and disinfecting of the exposed classroom have been completed.

Anyone identified as a close contact will receive an exclusion letter from the Stark County Health Department as a part of the COVID-19 investigation. In order to expedite notice, the Stark County Health Department has asked that the school forward that letter to you.

### **How You Can Help**

- Stay home when you are sick.
- Wear a mask or face covering while in public places or if people who don't live with you must visit your home.
- Avoid unnecessary gatherings with people who don't live in your home.
- Avoid sharing food, drinks, or utensils.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Sing the Happy Birthday song twice to help know when it has been 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use alcohol-based hand sanitizers that contain at least 60% alcohol.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue, and then dispose of the tissue and wash your hands immediately. If you do not have a tissue, use your sleeve, not your hands, to cover coughs and sneezes. If you are experiencing cough or congestion, consider staying home and seeking medical care.
- Regularly clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipes. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends cleaning of frequently touched surfaces with household cleaners and EPA-registered disinfectants that are appropriate for the surface, following label instructions. A simple bleach solution may also be utilized.

Thank you for helping to keep people safe and to slow the spread of COVID-19 in our community and school. For answers to your COVID-19 questions, call 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634) or visit [coronavirus.ohio.gov](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov).

Your mental health is just as important as your physical health. If you or a loved one are experiencing anxiety related to the coronavirus pandemic, help is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Call the COVID-19 CareLine at 1-800-720-9616.

Sincerely,

Dennis Lambes,  
Superintendent



**COVID-19 Symptoms**  
**Help prevent the spread of Covid-19**

*You may have COVID-19 if you have:*

- Fever or chills
- A cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Loss of taste or smell
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Symptoms may be mild or severe and may appear two to 14 days after exposure to the virus.

 **MIKE DEWINE**  
GOVERNOR OF OHIO

**Ohio** | Department of Health

[coronavirus.ohio.gov](https://coronavirus.ohio.gov)