



*Florham Park Public Schools*  
**ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE**  
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November 8, 2020

**RE: COVID-19 Positive - Ridgedale School (Closed 14 days)**

Dear Parents/Guardians & Staff,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that on Sunday, November 8, 2020, the district was informed of two (2) individuals within the Ridgedale Middle School who have tested positive for COVID-19. Both individuals do not ride the bus, nor are in the same classroom/cohort together. As per NJDOH guidelines, a school must close for 14 days if “2 or more cases are identified within 14 days that occur across multiple classrooms and a clear connection between cases or to a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 cannot be easily identified (outbreak involving multiple cohorts).”

**As a result and out of an abundance of caution, the Florham Park Health Department has determined that the Ridgedale Middle School will be closed through Wednesday, November 18, 2020,** since the last day school was in session was on Wednesday, November 4, 2020. The Ridgedale School will move to a distance learning model from Monday, November 9, 2020 through Wednesday, November 18, 2020. During this time, we will continue to follow the hybrid bell schedule. We will re-open the Ridgedale School and return to our hybrid model of instruction on Thursday, November 19, 2020. During this time, the Briarwood School and Brooklake School will not be closed and will continue to operate in its current hybrid model of instruction.

Our local health officials are working with school personnel to conduct all necessary contact tracing, which will continue throughout the coming days. A close contact is defined as someone who is within less than six feet of distance for more than 15 minutes cumulatively with a positive case over a twenty-four hour period.

As we continue to navigate the changing conditions of this pandemic, let us continue to work together in being vigilant in our approaches to this public health crisis. Please continue to wear masks, regularly sanitize your hands, and practice good social distancing. As always, the safety of our students and staff remains our top priority. Thank you again for your understanding and your shared commitment to the education of our students.

Should you have any questions about this situation, please feel free to contact Mrs. Kentner, Ridgedale School Nurse at 973-822-3855 x 2004/[Marian.Kentner@fpks.org](mailto:Marian.Kentner@fpks.org) or Mr. Steffner, Ridgedale Principal, at 973-822-3855 x 2001/[Nicholas.Steffner@fpks.org](mailto:Nicholas.Steffner@fpks.org). Additionally, below are some resources that might be helpful.

**RESOURCES** → NJDOH Link: [NJDOH COVID-19 Information for Communities and the General Public](#)  
→ CDC Links: [Get the Facts about Coronavirus](#), [Symptoms of COVID-19](#), [Testing](#),  
[How to Protect Yourself](#), [What to Do if You Are Sick](#)

Sincerely,

*Steven Caponegro*

Dr. Steven Caponegro

cc: School Nurse  
Mr. Thomas Cantisano, Florham Park Health Officer