



*Florham Park Public Schools*  
**ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE**  
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November 9, 2020

**RE: Positive COVID-19 Case in Briarwood Elementary School**

Dear Parents/Guardians:

This letter is to inform you that an individual within the **Briarwood Elementary School** has tested positive for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). For reasons of privacy, the District will not be providing grade or class-level notifications regarding these matters in this communication, except to those individuals determined to be *Close Contacts* and to the specific families of students in the classes and/or bus it directly impacts. (*This individual does not ride the bus*). The last time this individual was in the classroom was on Wednesday, Nov. 4th. 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. Please be aware that any individual(s) that test positive for COVID-19 are required to isolate and will not be physically present in school until he/she meets NJDOH criteria for return. **All individuals requiring quarantine/isolation have already been notified in accordance with the New Jersey Department of Health protocols.** As per the NJDOH, 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 24 hour period.

Cleaning and disinfecting of all exposed areas has 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](#) 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 Mrs. Castellano, Briarwood School Nurse at 973-822-3884 x 3002/ [kristen.castellano@fpks.org](mailto:kristen.castellano@fpks.org) or Mrs. Heimple, Briarwood School Principal, at 973-822-3884 x 3000/ [Samantha.Heimple@fpks.org](mailto:Samantha.Heimple@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