

Parent/Guardian:

The recent spike in COVID-19 cases in our community and among our students and staff has put a strain on our school district's ability to provide timely and accurate information and notification regarding cases. As a result, and after consultation with the Department of Health, we are making changes in how we handle such cases and how parents are notified.

Our priorities are to ensure that students who are ill *are not* in school, and that students who are healthy *are* in school. To achieve those goals efficiently, our time and resources are focused on verified positive cases among our students and staff. They will be notified individually, and provided information regarding instructional options and their safe return to school or work.

We are committed to a more surgical approach when contact tracing to determine that a student must quarantine, in keeping with our priority of limiting any unnecessary loss of instructional time.

Parents/guardians who have a student who exhibits symptoms should remain at home, and should consider getting tested. The self-screener posted on each school website provides a helpful guide regarding symptoms, and should be reviewed daily prior to coming to school. As always, it is essential that **students and staff should not be in school or in the workplace if they have symptoms or test positive.**

Should your child need to quarantine as a close contact to a positive case, you will receive a call from the Suwannee County Health Department.

The CORONAVIRUS self-checker link:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/coronavirus-self-checker.html?s_cid=ccbot_004#cdc-chat-bot-open