

October 10, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

This letter is to inform you that an individual at **GARFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL** has tested positive for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). 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. We understand the level of concern regarding COVID-19. Individuals identified as close contacts have been informed and will remain in quarantine for fourteen days from the date of last contact with the individual who tested positive.

At this time, our school remains open to students and staff members who have not been identified as close contacts. Cleaning and disinfecting of all exposed areas has been completed. The school is also taking extreme precautions to prevent the introduction and spread of viruses and other germs. All rooms and frequently touched surfaces are disinfected daily with the use of Bioesque, an EPA registered broad-spectrum disinfectant which kills 99.9% of bacteria and viruses in just four minutes.

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 Ms. Sciacca, Superintendent of Garfield Public Schools at 973-340-5000.

Below are some resources that might be helpful.

RESOURCES

a. NJDOH COVID-19 Information for Communities and the General Public:

https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/covid2019_community.shtml

b. Get the Facts about Coronavirus: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

c. Symptoms of COVID-19: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptomstesting/symptoms.html>

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d. Testing: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/testing/index.html>;
<https://covid19.nj.gov/pages/testing>

e. How to Protect Yourself: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-gettingsick/prevention.html> f. What to Do if You Are Sick:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/stepswhen-sick.html>

Sincerely,
Anna Sciacca
Superintendent of Schools

