

Dear GCSD Parents/Guardians:

Germantown CSD was informed today that two elementary students have tested positive for COVID-19. However, these students have not been physically present in school since October 16, 2020 and have been isolated in their home, therefore GCSD remains open as normal. Per our health and safety protocols, Germantown CSD has been in communication with the Columbia County Department of Health and has determined that there are no close contacts within the school.

Due to privacy requirements, we cannot divulge any further information about any individual who has a confirmed case of COVID-19.

As previously communicated, we encourage you to offer your full cooperation if you are contacted by a representative of the local health department. If you are not contacted by a representative from your local health department there is no further action needed. **In addition, please answer your phone if you receive a call from the NYS Contact Tracing Virtual Call Center, which is the system implemented by NYS Department of Health for contact tracing.**

For any positive COVID-19 case, Germantown CSD will assist the county with contact tracing efforts using attendance records as well as other information. While we understand that you may want additional details, privacy laws restrict us from disclosing or confirming any personally identifiable information.

We ask that all families continue to follow all safety guidelines outside of school hours including proper use of face coverings, social distancing, proper hand hygiene and avoiding gatherings and travel to [states with high positivity rates](#). We also remind you to check your child's temperature each morning to ensure that it is below 100 degrees and that they have no symptoms of COVID-19 prior to sending them to school.

Please monitor your child(ren) for any symptoms of COVID-19 and report any absences and positive COVID-19 test results to the Health Office, 518-537-6281 x 7108. Symptoms vary, and some people may not experience any symptoms. Please contact your healthcare provider (or the county health department if you do not have one) to be assessed if you or your child have one or more of these new or worsening symptoms:

- a temperature greater or equal to 100.0° F
- feel feverish or have chills
- cough
- loss of taste or smell
- fatigue
- sore throat
- shortness of breath
- nausea, vomiting, diarrhea
- muscle pain or body aches
- headaches or nasal congestion/running nose

Thank you all for your ongoing efforts to keep Germantown CSD students and staff safe and healthy. Please contact me with any questions or concerns. 518-537-6281 x 2302

Susan LS Brown  
Superintendent of Schools