

August 21 2020

Dear TFS Families,

As we stated before the school year started, we intend to be transparent with families about COVID-19 related issues within our community. This afternoon, we were informed that a friend of one of our TFS families has tested positive for COVID-19 and there was potential exposure between the friend and some family members. While the student(s) in this family have been on campus this week, no one in the family is sick; however, they are considered “exposed”. As per our protocols, they will quarantine for 2 weeks and will be tested. Anyone who may have been in contact with the student(s) is **NOT** considered exposed at this time. We are in contact with the family, and we will follow up with everyone should it become necessary.

We are following all protocols and procedures in our re-opening handbook. Under this scenario, we are not required to notify our local health authorities. However, we always have your health as a priority; so we did reach out to the Wake County Health Department and discussed the situation with them. They advised that our protocols are appropriate, and that no further action is necessary unless family members test positive. We are informing all of you out of an abundance of caution and to be fully transparent with you.

We continue to follow our cleaning and sanitizing routines, in accordance with CDC and NC DHHS Strong Schools guidelines.

As always, we ask that you and your family continue to follow local, state and federal guidelines to protect your health and the health of those around you:

- wash hands often with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds (or use hand sanitizer, when hand washing is not possible)
- wear a cloth face covering
- practice physical distancing by remaining 6 feet apart from others
- keep your student at home if they sick, especially if they are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19

We remain committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for our students, faculty and staff, and to provide open and transparent communications. We appreciate your partnership and support! Please feel free to reach out to me or Joanne Sullivan, our school nurse, with questions.

Sincerely,

Michael Watson
Principal at The Franciscan School