

SPARTANS

SOUTHERN LEHIGH

Dear Parents/Guardians or Staff Member:

I am writing to communicate that the Southern Lehigh School District was notified of the following positive case(s) of COVID-19.

School Building Information	Physically Present During DOH Defined Infectious Period (Y / N)
Hopewell Elementary School	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A student who was last physically present on 3/18/21 	N
The asterisk (*) denotes students who reside in the same household.	

The SLSD continues to work with the Pennsylvania Department of Health in all matters related to COVID-19 and all students or staff who have been deemed a “close contact” ([PA DOH Definition](#)) will receive an additional correspondence from **BOTH** the **Southern Lehigh School District** and the **Pennsylvania Department of Health** with further guidance on what to do next. The SLSD will continue to follow the procedures outlined in the [District Health and Safety Plan](#) and specifically the [Exclusion From and Return to School Document](#). Under the updated [Recommendations for Pre-K to 12 Schools Following Identification of a Case\(s\) of COVID-19](#), cases that are noted as having been physically present (noted above) during the DOH defined “infectious period” will be added to the Rolling 14 Day Case Count for the associated school building. Under these guidelines, students and staff who are deemed a “close contact” of persons with COVID-19 will now be able to complete **ONE OF THE TWO QUARANTINE OPTIONS LISTED BELOW:**

- 7 Day Quarantine Option-** The quarantine can end **AFTER DAY 7** if the individual completes a diagnostic test (e.x., RT-PCR, antigen) where the specimen is **COLLECTED ON DAY 5 OR THEREAFTER**, the individual remains asymptomatic, and a final outcome of the diagnostic test is negative for COVID-19.
- 10 Day Quarantine Option -** The quarantine period can end **AFTER DAY 10** without the individual completing a diagnostic test if no symptoms related to COVID-19 have been reported during daily symptom monitoring.

Staff and students **MUST** continue to complete the [Daily Health Screener](#) and stay home when sick. Further, staff and students **MUST** notify the SLSD Nursing Team immediately if they are experiencing symptoms related to COVID-19 or are a confirmed case of COVID-19. All SLSD students and staff must continue to closely monitor themselves for any sign of illness related to COVID-19 and seek medical guidance as needed. The Pennsylvania Department of Health provides the following guidance specific to the symptoms of [COVID-19](#).

If you have any questions about COVID-19 or the related symptoms, please call the PA Department of Health at 1-877-PA-Health, Lehigh County representatives from the Pennsylvania Department of Health at 610-821-6770, or schedule a virtual visit at [St. Luke's](#) (1-866-STLUKES, option 7) or [LVHN](#), (888-402-LVHN).

Thank you in advance for your diligence in helping the SLSD mitigate COVID-19 in our community. We appreciate your support and the District will continue to work in partnership with the PA DOH throughout the ongoing pandemic. As always, please feel free to contact me via email at ruhft@slsd.org with questions.

Thomas Ruhf
Assistant to the Superintendent