



# PARKLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

*Educating For Success, Inspiring Excellence.*

## Administration Center

1210 Springhouse Rd., Allentown, PA 18104

[www.parklandsd.org](http://www.parklandsd.org)



ParklandSchoolDistrict



@ParklandSchools



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September 24, 2020

Dear Parkland High School Staff and Parents/Guardians,

I wanted to make you aware that we were notified today by the Department of Health that an individual associated with our football team who was last in attendance at our high school on September 15<sup>th</sup>, and last attended football practice on September 17<sup>th</sup>, has subsequently tested positive for COVID-19. Due to procedures related to privacy laws, I am limited in what I can say. I urge you to also respect the privacy of our students and staff.

The Pennsylvania Department of Health (PA DOH) is monitoring this individual. The PA DOH is responsible for all contact tracing and school district administration has assisted our public health officials with this endeavor. Staff members and students who are determined to be a close contact with the individual will be directly contacted by PA DOH with instructions to quarantine. Close contacts are those who are within 6 feet distance for greater than or equal to 15 minutes with a person identified as a confirmed case with COVID-19. Additionally, any persons participating on an athletic team with a person identified with a confirmed case of COVID-19, unmasked, is considered a close contact, and will be required to quarantine.

PA DOH officials have determined there is no need, at this time, to close Parkland High School for students and staff and school will continue as scheduled. The PA DOH will require us to suspend all varsity and junior varsity football practices and games through October 1, 2020. We will continue to clean and disinfect, as appropriate, and our school building remains safe for occupancy.

Anyone experiencing symptoms should self-quarantine and contact your doctor. If you are feeling ill, it is recommended that you separate from others in the home, wear a face mask, cover coughs and sneezes, clean hands and surfaces often, and avoid sharing personal items. It should be emphasized that anyone who is ill should stay home except to get medical care. As you know, virus symptoms can range from mild to severe and could include fever, cough, shortness of breath, chills without a fever, sore throat, muscle aches and pains, and temporary loss of smell or taste. Symptoms may appear in a few as 2 days or as long as 14 days after exposure.

If you have questions or concerns regarding your individual health and COVID-19, please contact your primary care physician.

We thank you for your cooperation and support.

Sincerely,

Richard T. Sniscak  
Superintendent of Schools  
Parkland School District