

March 12, 2021

District families,

The District was notified today of three probable cases of COVID-19 at South Mountain Elementary School. A probable case is when an individual does not have the confirmation of a positive test result but is both symptomatic and a close contact of a positive case. According to the Department of Health, a probable case is to be treated the same as a confirmed case.

These three cases involve students that were all last in the building on Friday, March 5. Because South Mountain Elementary has now accumulated three cases within a 14-day period (two cases is the threshold for closure), the building must close per PDE's Closure Orders.

With these probable cases coming on the heels of a recent closure, this closure will be extended to four days to include the weekend, beginning Saturday, March 13 and continuing through Tuesday, March 16. Staff and students will operate in the remote model of instruction on Monday and Tuesday. South Mountain will reopen on Wednesday, March 17.

The District has taken action in accordance with the guidelines of the PA Department of Health (DOH) and the protocols established in the district's Health and Safety Plan, including consultation with the DOH, contact tracing, quarantining individuals that were in close contact, and appropriate cleaning and disinfecting of affected areas.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we navigate the many challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In education,

Steve Kirkpatrick
Superintendent of Schools