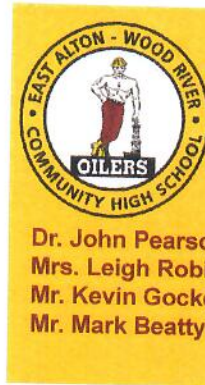


East Alton - Wood River Community High School

777 N. WOOD RIVER AVENUE - WOOD RIVER, ILLINOIS 62095-1227
PHONE: (618) 254-3151 • FAX: (618) 254-9113
WWW.EAWR.ORG

EAWR = EXCELLENCE ATTAINED WITH RESPECT



Dr. John Pearson, Superintendent
Mrs. Leigh Robinson, Principal
Mr. Kevin Gockel, Assistant Principal
Mr. Mark Beatty, Dean/ Athletic Director

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September 16, 2020

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Dear Families and Staff:

This letter is to inform you that an employee at East Alton - Wood River High School had tested positive for COVID-19. The employee has been quarantined at home. A second and third employee who were in close contact with the employee who tested positive are currently symptom free but are quarantined for the standard 14 days. That close contact did not occur on EAWR campus.

The employee who tested positive was at the high school last week (Sept. 8-11) and was around other staff and students, but, according to the best information we have via contact tracing, he/she socially distanced him/herself and wore a mask in those situations. That employee has been quarantined at home all of this week (beginning Sept. 14th). The second employee has been quarantined all of this week, as well. The third employee has not reported COVID-19 symptoms at this point, either, but was quarantined to his/her home this morning and will stay in quarantine until released by the health department.

We are coordinating our efforts with the Madison County Health Department to further and promptly identify and monitor other individuals who may have had recent contact with the COVID-19 positive employees to prevent further spread within our school and community. The health and safety of EAWR students and staff is our highest priority, and we recognize the uncertainty and concern regarding the evolving COVID-19 pandemic. We are following guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as well as the state and local health departments for best practices and procedures to protect everyone's health.

To prevent further spread of the disease, EAWR is taking the following steps:

- Placing staff members and students who are identified as having prolonged close contact to the COVID-19 case(s) in quarantine for 14 days. Close contacts will also receive a separate notification from the Madison County Health Department.
- Ongoing monitoring of students and staff for signs and symptoms of illness and evaluation of illness reports to promptly identify possible outbreaks.
- Conducting a deep clean and disinfection of the areas impacted by potential exposure to the COVID-19 virus.

- **As always, everyone should monitor their health and stay at home if they develop symptoms¹. Sick persons should contact their health care provider to determine if testing is needed. Anyone who develops severe symptoms² should seek medical care immediately.**

If your child has had close contact with a known case of COVID-19, keep the child at home and notify your primary healthcare provider, EAWR's Nurse Kelly (Ext. 2530), and the Madison County Health Department.

We are committed to providing your child and our staff with a safe and healthy environment. Thank you for your understanding and ongoing cooperation with our COVID prevention policies and procedures as we work to help protect your children, your families, and our staff and their families. For any questions or concerns, please contact us at 618-254-3151, Ext. 2530.

Sincerely,

Dr. John Pearson, Superintendent

¹ 1 Symptoms of COVID-19 include: fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea.

² 2 Severe symptoms of COVID-19 include: trouble breathing, persistent pain or pressure in the chest, new confusion, inability to wake or stay awake, bluish lips or face.