

December 9, 2020

Dear Spring Valley PS Students, Staff and Families,

As always, the well-being of our students and staff is our top priority. With that in mind, we are sharing this note to inform you that the Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge District Health Unit has confirmed today a positive staff case of COVID-19 at our school.

That individual will remain at home until the health unit advises they may return to school. The identity of the individual is protected by privacy legislation and will not be shared. A positive case at a school does not necessarily mean the individual was exposed to COVID-19 at the school. They may have been exposed somewhere else in the community.

We are working closely with the Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge District Health Unit to identify anyone at the school who may have been exposed to the ill individual while they were infectious. **On behalf of the health department, we will be notifying all identified contacts with a separate notice to advise them as to any next steps they must take.** Those individuals will be contacted directly, everyone else can continue to attend school and work as usual.

We appreciate that this news may be concerning for our students, staff and parents, and we want to assure everyone that we continue to work closely with the health unit to respond to this issue.

I can also share with you that our school will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected this evening. In addition to our daily pandemic cleaning protocols, which include increased cleaning and disinfecting of high touch surfaces, and thorough cleanings in the evenings, KPR schools are regularly disinfected on a rotating basis with an electro-static sprayer. The Clorox Total 360 System is approved for use against the virus that causes COVID-19; it kills cold and flu viruses, MRSA and norovirus in two minutes or less, kills 99.9% of bacteria in five seconds and can even sanitize soft surfaces. It has been used effectively in schools and other education settings for several years.

Our school will be disinfected by the electro-static sprayer tonight.

To protect yourselves, your children and the community, the health unit recommends that you stay home if you are sick; complete daily self-screening; continue to physically distance from others as much as possible; wear a mask when indoors, on a bus, or when you cannot maintain a two metre distance outside; clean hands often with soap and water or hand sanitizer; cough and sneeze into your sleeve; avoid touching your face; avoiding sharing personal items with others; and avoid close contact with anyone who is ill. For more information regarding COVID-19, please visit <https://www.hkpr.on.ca/covid-19/>

We continue to follow all the recommendations of the provincial government and our local public health agencies. If you would like further information on the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board's COVID-19 protocols, please visit <http://kprschools.ca/en/COVID-19.html>

We will continue to let families know of any further developments. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,
Steven Cooper
Principal