

August 19, 2021

Dear SLMS Titan Parents, Guardians, and Staff,

So far this school year, you have received three messages from me titled, "Notification of Positive Case of COVID-19." One was sent August 11, another was sent August 17, and another was sent this evening. You will continue to receive these updates when positive cases of COVID-19 are identified at Sugar Land MS.

I want to explain two other types of email messages you might receive related to COVID-19 cases at school.

Possible Exposure Letter

The SLMS administrative team sends this letter to notify parents when their child may have been exposed to a positive COVID-19 case at school. This means your child was in a classroom, on a sports team, in a fine arts group, or in other daily school settings in which another person who tested positive for COVID-19 was present. If you receive this letter, it means we have not been able to determine your child was in close contact with the person who tested positive but was in the general vicinity of that person. "Close contact" means being within three feet of a person who tested positive for at least a total of fifteen minutes within a twenty-four hour period.

Close Contact Letter

The SLMS administrative team sends this letter when we determine your child has been in close contact at school to a person who tested positive for COVID-19. "Close contact" means being within three feet of a person who tested positive for at least a total of fifteen minutes within a twenty-four hour period.

Sugar Land MS (and hopefully in the near future, district-level) personnel conduct contact tracing by speaking with parents, students, and staff to identify who was in close contact with the person who tested positive. Due to confidentiality concerns, we cannot reveal the identities of people who tested positive in the letters or phone calls or tell you the exact classes or location of the possible exposure. Both letters include information from Fort Bend ISD and the Texas Education Agency regarding COVID-19 safety protocols including the issue of quarantining students. Students who test positive for COVID-19 must isolate themselves at home, away from school and school activities. Students that may have been exposed to positive cases, or who are determined to have been in close contact with positive cases, have the *option* of quarantining themselves at home. You should consult with your family physician regarding your options in these instances. Students on quarantine and those at home due to positive cases of COVID-19 will keep up with their assignments through Schoology and contact with their teachers. Specific details regarding this aspect of continuing learning is communicated in the Exposure Letter and in the Close Contact Letter mentioned above.

Additional COVID-19 Information

- **Complete and submit the FBISD Wellness Screener if your child tests positive for COVID-19.** The link to the screener is [here](#) and on the home page of the FBISD website.
- Information about FBISD's health and safety protocols is found [here](#).
- The district's positive COVID-19 cases "dashboard" is found [here](#).

Please contact your child's grade level administrator if you have questions related to attendance, or other school-related issues. Contact the SLMS Nurse, Mrs. Shetal Patel, at (281) 634-8745 if you have questions related to quarantine periods, COVID-19, or other school health-related matters.

Grade Level Administrators

- 6th Grade – Mrs. Monika Martin (281) 634-3083 monika.martin@fortbendisd.com
- 7th Grade – Dr. Dawn Rogers (281) 634-3113 dawn.rogers@fortbendisd.com
- 8th Grade – Mr. Luster Goodwin (281) 634-3084 luster.goodwin@fortbendisd.com

I hope this brings some clarity to the types of COVID-related communication you will receive from the SLMS team. Fort Bend ISD continues to encourage the wearing of face masks while people are indoors and/or unable to physically distance from others. The SLMS custodial team thoroughly cleans and disinfects the school each day. Thank you for your understanding during this challenging time.

Sincerely,

Keith Fickel, Principal
Sugar Land MS