September 2, 2020

Dear Davis parents, staff, and community members:

Late today, we were notified that two individuals associated with Davis Public Schools have tested positive for COVID-19 in unrelated cases. While we must protect the privacy of the people involved, we believe it is best to communicate transparently with you so you can make well-informed decisions for your family. In both situations, we have worked closely with the Murray County Health Department to ensure we are proceeding properly. **School officials have already personally contacted those affected by either situation.**

**Middle School Student**
After reviewing this situation, health officials are requiring quarantine for a small group of students who have already been contacted. At this time, due to our safety precautions, no additional actions are necessary.

**Child Nutrition Staff**
After reviewing this situation, including the safety protocols we have in place during mealtime, health officials confirmed that students and staff who have eaten in the cafeteria are not considered close contacts for exposure and are not required to quarantine. Additionally, they confirmed there is no evidence to suggest that handling food or consuming food is associated with COVID-19 exposure. Based on all information, health officials granted permission for the district to continue serving meals.

Several members of our child nutrition staff will need to quarantine. Our food service partner, OPAA has made arrangements to provide additional staff, not associated with this exposure, so we can continue to feed students breakfast and lunch without disruption. We appreciate their cooperation and support.

There is nothing more important to Davis Public Schools than the safety and health of our students, our staff and their families. We will continue to follow COVID-related safety procedures including frequent handwashing, sanitizing the building, and social distancing.
The virus is transmitted through person-to-person contact and through the exchange of respiratory droplets. As more cases are being confirmed across the state, including in our community, we must be vigilant. Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough and shortness of breath. If you or any member of your family exhibit these symptoms, please contact your medical provider for advice immediately. Symptoms usually appear 2-14 days after exposure.

The CDC recommends the following best practices to help prevent the spread of COVID-19:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid close contact with those who are sick.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Avoid touching your eyes, mouth and nose.
- Disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects.
- Stay at home when you are sick.
- Practice social distancing, leaving at least six feet between you and other people.
- Wear a cloth mask in public when you cannot socially distance.

Our greatest priority is the safety of our students, staff and community members. It is important to remember that children are greatly influenced by the reactions of adults when facing difficult circumstances. I encourage everyone to remain calm and to be empathic and respectful to those affected.

We are grateful for the opportunity to serve you and your family, especially as we face this challenging situation together. Thank you for your support of Davis Public Schools.

Sincerely,

Mark Moring
Superintendent