August 25, 2020

Dear Tishomingo school family:

As we shared yesterday, we are committed to providing you with current and accurate information about COVID-19 cases impacting our district. Unfortunately, we learned today that an additional Tishomingo High School employee has tested positive for the virus. As I shared with the team this afternoon, based on discussions with health officials, we must require members of the high school football team to quarantine for 14 days. This Friday’s game had already been cancelled, and it is likely we will be unable to play on Friday, September 4 as well.

We know this decision will be disappointing and sad for athletes, their families and other THS students; however, please know we have made this difficult decision out of care and concern for the health of our students, staff and community. We cannot wait for the team to take the field again – when health officials determine it is safe to do so. We will provide students with distance learning opportunities while they quarantine, and they will not be counted absent for the days they must be at home.

There is nothing more important to Tishomingo Public Schools than the safety and health of those in our care. As more cases are being confirmed across the state, including in our community, we ask that you please remain vigilant. Monitor yourself and your family for symptoms of COVID-19, which include fever, cough and shortness of breath. If you or any member of your family exhibit these symptoms, please contact your medical provider or the Johnston County Health Department (580-371-2470) for advice immediately. Symptoms usually appear 2-14 days after exposure.

As a reminder, 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.

We are grateful for the opportunity to serve you and your family. Thank you for your patient, flexibility and understanding as we navigate this difficult time. We will get through this school year together – stronger and better than ever.

Thank you for your support of Tishomingo Public Schools.

Sincerely,
Bobbi Waitman
Superintendent