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Randolph County School System

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Jack Fowler, Vice-Chairman
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Dr. Tangela Madge, Superintendent

Dear Parents and Guardians:

In order to protect the school environment and community, we feel that it is imperative that all of our students return to virtual next week, September 27- October 1. As you all know, the majority of our face-to-face students are tested for COVID-19 on a weekly basis. This extra layer of protection has been extremely vital in helping us to stop the spread of the virus. On Friday morning, September 24th, we received the test results back from the company, which yielded a positive result for one of our students. Because this student had a sibling in the district, after being tested, the sibling has the virus as well. After learning the results, the school nurse began talking to other students, teachers, and parents. Through this aggressive act of contact tracing, we were able to identify several students who were in close contact with the positive students and asked that they be tested. Testing these students resulted in two additional students testing positive. As you all know, attending classes and extra-curricular activities with students that have tested positive, puts other students at-risk.

The contact tracing revealed that the affected students are in the middle and high schools. Because the majority of our students are bus riders, it is almost impossible to do an appropriate contact tracing grid and isolation chart. Therefore, returning to an all virtual model is necessary. I realize that making a move like this in such short notice, might be somewhat of an inconvenience. However, as I said from day one, the safety of our students, faculty, and staff is the top priority of the school district. Students who are currently attending face-to-face instruction will return on Monday, October 4, 2021. Students who are currently virtual, will remain virtual until October 18, 2021. Please keep in mind that the week of October 11-15 is Fall break for our students. Although our students will not be in class on our next COVID-19 testing date, Tuesday, September 28, 2021, we are recommending that you call your child's school on Monday, September 27th, to put them on the list to be tested.

Lunch will be delivered based on our current virtual lunch schedule, which is posted on all district and schools' websites. Please visit the various schools' websites on tomorrow, September 26th, for additional information, including information concerning device pickup for our elementary students. Also parents, if your child(ren) test positive for COVID-19, please contact the district's nurse and not social media. Posting results on social media can result in students being targeted and/or causing other students to become upset with your child(ren) for possibly giving him/her the virus. Again, as always, please be safe and ensure that everyone in your household follow the Center for Disease Control guidelines. Also, remember that all decisions are based on information received from the school nurse and health officials.

Kind regards,

Tangela Madge

Tangela Madge, Ed.D.