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Patrick McQueeney  
*Interim Superintendent of Schools*  
*Assistant Superintendent*

Thursday, March 18, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians:

This letter is to inform you that two (2) students on hybrid instruction at Sparta High School have tested positive for Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) as indicated by the Sussex County Department of Health. The individuals that were impacted or are direct contacts of this positive case are being contacted directly and will be provided guidance regarding the need to quarantine and other cautionary measures. The District is coordinating closely with public health officials and following CDC, state, and local health department guidance in order to assure the health and safety of our community. ***Sparta High School will continue in hybrid instruction with Cohort A (A-K) attending in-person.***

We understand the level of concern regarding COVID-19. We encourage parents and students to continue following the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention promoted safeguards, such as:

- Staying home when you are sick;
- Washing hands often with soap for at least 20 seconds;
- Covering coughs and sneezes and properly disposing of tissues;
- Limiting close contact with people who are sick and not sharing food, drinks and utensils;
- Practicing social distancing (staying at least 6 feet apart);
- Wearing a face covering while in school; and
- Continuing to monitor your health for symptoms.

Should you be concerned about a potential exposure to the COVID-19 virus, please contact your family physician or the [organizations linked here](#), as provided by the Sussex County Department of Health, can be contacted regarding COVID-19 testing (fees may apply).

We encourage our Spartan Learning Community to be proactive in their efforts to ensure the health and safety for all and support those Spartans who are impacted by this virus. We support our students and families in maintaining our strong sense of community during a time when we are increasingly isolated and divided. It is important that we follow all of the CDC safety recommendations above and any applicable Executive Orders from Governor Murphy. Despite these efforts to minimize the transmission of the virus, we understand that COVID-19 is within our community. Please get tested when concerned, cooperate with contact tracing efforts, and self-isolate when necessary to keep Sparta healthy and safe. **TOGETHER** we can be **#SPARTASTRONG!**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. McQueeney", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mr. Patrick McQueeney, Interim Superintendent of Schools  
Sparta Township Public Schools