DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

May 22, 2022

Dear Takoma Elementary School,

This letter is to inform you that we have been notified of 2 reported positive case(s) of COVID-19 at your school: 1 on May 17 and 1 on May 19. Any positive individual is no longer on campus and will not return until medically cleared. **Unless you have received instructions directly**, you have not been identified as a close contact of a positive individual and do not need to self-quarantine.

DCPS continues to employ our layered mitigation strategy against COVID-19, including asymptomatic testing, symptom screening upon arrival, and enhanced air filtration. We wanted to take a moment to provide a few resources and reminders for our families:

1. **Remember to follow Ask, Ask, Look** and continue to monitor your student for any symptoms of COVID-19 every day. If they are showing any symptoms and/or they are required to quarantine due to being unvaccinated and exposed to an individual who has tested positive from COVID-19, please keep them home. Follow all isolation guidance from DC Health and your child's healthcare provider.

2. **Quarantine periods for DCPS Staff and Student Close Contacts:**
    a. Students and staff who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 or who had COVID-19 in the last 90 days do not need to quarantine if they do not have any COVID-19 symptoms.
    b. If an unvaccinated/partially vaccinated student or staff member is a close contact to someone who tests positive for COVID-19, they will be required to quarantine for at least 5 days. Students or staff may return to the classroom on day 6 if they take a COVID-19 PCR or rapid antigen test on or after day 5 and receive a negative result.
    c. Unvaccinated students or staff who do not take a PCR or rapid antigen test must quarantine for 10 days. If your student is identified as a close contact for a reported positive case at school, your principal will provide instructions to quarantine.

3. **COVID Centers in your neighborhood:** At the District's COVID Centers, individuals will have access to vaccinations, boosters, face masks, and take-home rapid antigen tests as well as a walk-up testing. COVID Centers are open in all 8 wards and find the one near you at https://coronavirus.dc.gov/covidcenters.

4. **Get Vaccinated**: Getting yourself and your child vaccinated is the best way to protect your family against COVID-19, and we urge our families to take this important step for all students 5 years or older. Visit vaccinate.dc.gov for free vaccine locations across the city.

5. **Free meals for students:** Grab and go breakfast and lunches are available to all DCPS students. Meal sites are located around the district and further information is available on the DCPS Food and Nutrition Services page. For additional meal resources, families are encouraged to visit coronavirus.dc.gov/food for information, including free grocery sites and more.

We know that this has been a trying time for our community. We will continue to keep you informed about our health and safety measures and work together to ensure we continue to have a strong, robust, and safe school year.

Thank you,
DCPS COVID Response Team