



## NORTH EAST SCHOOL DISTRICT

50 EAST DIVISION STREET • NORTH EAST, PENNSYLVANIA 16428  
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Dr. Michele Spurgeon Hartzell, Superintendent

Mr. Jeffrey Fox, Business Manager

Mrs. Shelley Allen, Administrative Assistant

September 6, 2020

Good Morning North East Family,

Please be advised that our District Office was notified the evening of Saturday September 5, 2020, that an employee tested positive for COVID-19. The North East School District has communicated with the Erie County Department of Health and have followed all ECDOH and the NESD Safety plan protocols. The employee was last on-site in the North East School District on Tuesday, September 1, 2020, with limited contact with students/staff and was wearing gloves and a mask. The employee has been provided with a mid-September return to work date from the Department of Health. It is our understanding the contact was from a community source, not within the district. As a reminder, all students, families, and staff members have a right by law to privacy and confidentiality; therefore, we also request that you do not try to guess or discuss as well as respect the privacy laws.

All individuals who were working in close proximity to this employee within 48 hours prior to the onset of symptoms have been informed to self-monitor and/or self-quarantine (*within six feet for more than 15 minutes*) for symptoms through September 12. The Erie County Department of Health will be in contact with the employee to conduct any further interviews.

The North East School District has already cleaned and disinfected the areas. The health and safety of our students and staff is our number one priority. We ask if you believe you have been in contact with anyone who may have symptoms of COVID-19 or you experience one or more symptoms from Group A or two or more symptoms from Group B below, please stay home and contact your health care provider.

Group A

Fever (100.4 or higher)  
Cough  
Shortness of breath  
Difficulty breathing  
Bluish Lips

Group B

Sore throat  
Runny nose/congestion  
Chills  
New lack of smell or taste  
Muscle pain  
Nausea or vomiting  
Diarrhea  
Headache

The Erie County Department of Health COVID-19 FAQ's are located here: [COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions\\*](#)  
Again, we are confident in the district Safety Plan and the protocols we have in place to protect our students and staff.

Sincerely,

*MSHartzell*

*SKarns*

Dr. Michele S. Hartzell, Superintendent/Co-Pandemic Coordinator  
Dr. Steven Karns, MS Co-Principal/Co-Pandemic Coordinator

**Mission:** *"to challenge, empower, and engage all students to develop and achieve personal and career aspirations, to pursue lifelong learning, and to be responsible and accountable citizens in a dynamic world."*