

October 31, 2020

Dear Bennett Ranch Families,

A staff member in our physical education department has been designated as a presumed positive case with COVID-19, due to exposure to a confirmed positive case, along with having COVID-19 symptoms. Each case of exposure to COVID-19 is assessed by our county's public health department. As part of their investigation of that individual's activity, our local public health partners, in consultation with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, directed that:

- The person designated as a presumed positive case will isolate from school until they are no longer infectious (exclusion and isolation).
- The people who were close contacts of the person with COVID-19 are instructed to stay home for 14 days after the exposure (quarantine). A negative COVID-19 PCR test does not allow your child to come back to school or attend other activities sooner.

Because it is impossible to assess all interactions during physical education instruction, and because of the length of time which classes spend together, all physical education class members are considered close contacts. Your child was in the same class or group as the person designated as a presumed positive case for COVID-19, **so your K-5 Bennett Ranch Elementary student must follow quarantine instructions and stay home from school for 14 days.**

Your child can return to school and normal activities **Friday, Nov. 13, 2020**. During this time, your child should stay home and not go to other schools, activities, childcare or be around other people. Instructions about how to quarantine are available here:

<https://covid19.colorado.gov/how-to-quarantine#>

If your child develops symptoms consistent with COVID-19:

- Follow these isolation instructions <https://covid19.colorado.gov/how-to-isolate>
- Have your child tested.
- Continue to keep your child home from school and avoid other activities around other people.
- Notify the school.
- Seek medical care and testing for COVID-19, calling your doctor before you show up.

Public Health may recommend, or you may choose, to have your child tested for COVID-19 at some point after they were around the person with COVID-19. A negative test result does not mean that your child will not develop symptoms or become sick after the test. A negative test result means that your child did not have COVID-19 detected at the time of testing. A negative test will not allow your child to come back to school or attend other activities sooner. Medical insurance might not cover the cost of testing, however there are sites that conduct testing at no cost.

Under the Healthy Families and Workplaces Act (“HFWA”), an employer must provide paid leave to an employee under certain conditions, including taking care of someone else due to COVID-19 precautions, including a child whose school, place of care, or child care is closed or unavailable. <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdle/interpretive-notice-formal-opinions-infos>]

If you have further questions, please contact the Bennett Ranch Elementary School Office at (719) 495-5460 or your local public health agency.

Sincerely,

Martina Meadows - BRES Elementary Principal

Kris Levi - BRES Dean of Students

Brian Smith - Campus Executive Principal