

Ruidoso Municipal Schools

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10/20/2020

To parents or guardians of children who attend Sierra Vista Primary School PreK program,

Sierra Vista Primary is working with the New Mexico Public Education Department (NMPED) and New Mexico's Department of Health (NMDOH) because a staff member at our facility has tested positive for COVID-19. PreK will be closed from October 20, 2020 -October 28, 2020. PreK staff and students may return to school on October 29, 2020.

This letter is to inform you that all CLOSE CONTACTS have been notified. Per guidance from both NMPED and NMDOH, we are required to investigate to see who had "close contact" with the staff member or student who tested positive for COVID-19. A "close contact" is defined as being closer than six feet for more than three minutes to a person who is positive for COVID-19, and all staff and students who were in the same classroom or on the same bus as the infected individual. According to NMPED and NMDOH, all staff who were in "close contact" with the infected individual must be tested seven to 10 days after close contact exposure to the positive COVID-19 individual. All students who were close contacts are strongly encouraged to be tested, but not required. Both staff and student close contact must self-quarantine at home for 14 days, regardless of a test result.

As an individual NOT identified as a close contact, you may continue to send your non-PreK student(s) to school, unless they begin to show symptoms. At this time, only RMSD PreK classes are closed.

RMSD does want everyone to be aware of the necessary steps taken to protect staff and students from COVID-19. **Areas of the school (including buses) in which the COVID-19 positive individual spent time have been cleaned and disinfected multiple times.**

In the meantime, if your student(s) begin to develop symptoms of COVID-19, which are fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of smell or taste, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>) please call your healthcare provider or the COVID-19 hotline at 1-855-600-3453.

It is important that you call ahead to your healthcare provider before presenting to the physician's office, clinic, urgent care or emergency rooms so that they can be prepared for your arrival. They may also refer you to a testing clinic.

You may call SVP Principal Romero at (575) 258-6402 or NMDOH at (505) 827-0006, if you have questions.

Thank you for your support in these efforts.

Sincerely,

G.R.Bickert
Dr. George Bickert, Superintendent

Angela Romero
Angela Romero, Principal