



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: November 20, 2020

Additional Individuals Test Positive for COVID-19 at HCES

On November 18, 2020, the Florida Department of Health in Hamilton County (DOH-Hamilton) was notified of a positive case of COVID-19 in two individual(s) at Hamilton County Elementary School. Because children were possible exposed to COVID-19, parents of potentially exposed students were notified their child needed to quarantine at home for a specified number of days from their last day of attendance at school. Individual members of the teaching staff were also impacted and required to quarantine in accordance with CDC guideline and school board protocols.

Superintendent of Schools Lee Wetherington-Zamora stated “I will continue to follow protocols in place. I know this causes stress on individuals due to the report of a positive individual. However, every step of our process should we have a positive case was followed and executed as planned. We will activate the protocol of notification to all staff and students with follow up from the local department of health for those individuals who will need to take further action.” Superintendent Zamora went on to say, “I will follow the recommendations of the department of health to ensure all our staff and students remain safe from this virus. Although it is inconvenient for parents to have children sent home as well as staff members who are required to leave campus, we must follow the protocol that we have concerning appropriate processes once there is an exposure. This is to ensure we are not opening the door for a much larger impacted group of individuals.”

The Florida Department of Health in Hamilton County continues to work with the Hamilton County School District to maintain a safe, healthy environment for all students and staff in Hamilton County.

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