



PREPARING NEXT GENERATION LEADERS FOR CHRIST

November 14, 2020

Dear HLCS Staff and Families,

This morning I received notice that a high school student in our school tested positive for COVID-19. Additionally, I was notified that an elementary student at HLCS is also presumed positive with Covid. If you or your child are directly involved with either case, you would have already received additional communication from the school, and you will receive future communication from the Health Department.

Harbor Light will cooperate with the Health Department of Northwest Michigan regarding the implementation of screening and testing protocols for students and staff.

- Symptomatic students and staff will need to follow all of the CDC and Health Department guidelines before returning to the school.
- In the event of any positive case of COVID-19, the Health Department of Northwest Michigan will initiate contact tracing. Anyone who was within close contact of the identified case will be asked to self-quarantine for up to 14 days after exposure.
- Harbor Light Christian School will not release the names of anyone who was diagnosed with COVID-19, as this is protected health information. The school will only acknowledge a positive case and will discourage parents and community members from engaging in discussions related to the identity of the individual(s) diagnosed with COVID-19.

It is our role to tell all the families of Harbor Light Christian School that we are moving forward under the guidance of the Health Department of Northwest Michigan and that all measures have been taken to protect the wellbeing of your child(ren). Our greatest priority is the safety of our students, staff, and community members. It is important to remember that children are greatly influenced by the reactions of adults when facing difficult circumstances. We encourage everyone to remain calm and to be empathic and respectful to those affected.

We encourage you to answer the phone or return a voicemail if the Health Department contacts you. A contact tracer may be trying to reach you with important information.

Please monitor for the onset of symptoms related to COVID-19 including fever, cough, difficulty breathing, headache, sore throat, runny nose/congestion, diarrhea, or new fatigue. If you note any change in the health of your child, please call your primary care provider. If you are interested in further information about COVID-19 in our community or have additional questions related to this pandemic, please check out www.nwhealth.org/covidkids or www.michigan.gov/coronavirus.

You may also call the Health Department of Northwest Michigan's Public Health Information Line at 1-800-389-5959, or the State of Michigan COVID-19 hotline at 888-535-6136. HLCS is also only a phone call away, 231-347-7859. Please join us in praying for all staff and students involved.

Blessings,



Kelly Dutcher

Kelly Dutcher, Administrator
Harbor Light Christian School