January 29, 2021

Dear Hopewell Parents/Guardians,

The District was made aware of two (2) positive COVID cases today at Independence Elementary School.

The first case is a student in second grader who was last in the building on Wednesday, January 27, 2021. Close contacts are currently being identified and contacted. This student was considered to be infectious while in school this week, therefore, this positive case will count to the school closure case count.

The second case is a student in kindergarten who was last in the building on Tuesday, January 26, 2021. Close contacts are currently being identified and contacted. This student was considered to be infectious while in school this week, therefore, this positive case will count to the school closure case count.

As required by the PA Department of Health, the District is required to close Independence Elementary for at least three days in order to disinfect the building and to complete contact tracing. Therefore, Independence Elementary will be closed Saturday, January 30 through Monday, February 1. The District will contact the Department of Health on February 1 to confirm that the building is safe to open the rest of the week. All instructional staff will work from home on February 1. If an extended closure is necessary, the District will inform Independence students and staff and full virtual days will continue until DOH clears the building to reopen.

It is critical that all Hopewell parents monitor their child’s health and keep your child home from school if exhibiting any symptoms. Additionally, please report any COVID testing or symptoms to the school nurse.

Today, the weekly COVID data showed a decrease in positivity and incident rates at the county and the state level. Even though our county and state COVID data continues to decline, please continue to do your part in keeping our community and schools safe. Please continue to wash your hands, wear a facial covering, and socially distance with others.

Should you have questions, please reach out to your building school nurse or principal. Our priority remains focused on the safety of all students, families and staff.

With Viking PRIDE-

Dr. Michelle Miller
Superintendent