August 21, 2020

Dear WPS Community,

On Friday, August 21, WPS was notified by our testing partner, COVIDcheck Colorado, that a teacher at Josephine Hodgkins Leadership Academy tested positive for COVID-19. The news was not unexpected or cause for alarm, but because we want everyone to be informed and be proactive as we deal with COVID-19, we have an important update.

The teacher, whose privacy is protected by law, had a routine test on Wednesday, August 19, and the positive result was immediately shared with the district. Privacy for both staff and students is important, but we can tell you the teacher was at Hodgkins on the opening day of school, August 20, and students who were in direct contact with the teacher have been contacted. The students have been moved to our remote learning platform for a 14-day quarantine period.

WPS sent a notification letter to all Hodgkins families Friday morning.

Hodgkins Leadership Academy will remain open for in-person learning for all other students.

**NO OTHER WPS SCHOOLS ARE AFFECTED.**

We are in contact with the Tri-County Health Department and are implementing our response plan that was created with the understanding that at some point a student or staff member would test positive.

The 3 W's of Westminster Public Schools were created to minimize the spread of COVID-19 and it is critically important all students and staff follow the guidelines:

- Wear a Mask
- Wash Your Hands
- Watch Your Distance

It is also important that all of our families monitor the health of all members and make sure that anyone who is feeling ill **STAYS HOME**.

Hodgkins is commended for handling this situation according to all the guidelines of the **WPS Biosecurity Protocols**.
We strongly encourage you to resist the urge to be social, including, eating lunch with colleagues, adult-to-adult interaction for more than 15 minutes, etc. Please remember to social distance and abide by the state order to wear a face mask. All of us need to be vigilant and highly disciplined so that we can continue to operate as close to normal as possible.

Unfortunately, this is the new reality for public schools this year and we all need to look out for ourselves and each other.

As one doctor recently described it: “Unfortunately, this is going to be the rhythm of our work.”

-Westminster Public Schools