

Dear FIT Parents & Guardians,

I am writing to inform you that we had a confirmed case of COVID19 at FIT Academy reported to us yesterday. The individual with the confirmed case was present at the elementary school level last week. The student in question was not in school this week. We are following recommended protocol including the following:

- Quarantining the individual or any family members if any are also at FIT Academy
- Continued communication with the individual and/or parents
- Investigation of exposure in communication with the Minnesota Department of Health
- Quarantining those who meet the definition of exposure OR
- Asking those who may have been exposed to stay home while we continue to investigate

Investigation of exposure is meant to determine whether anyone else at school was exposed to the individual with the confirmed case. **Exposure is defined by the department of health as consisting of being 6 feet or closer for a total of 15 minutes throughout the day.** We begin this investigation by interviewing teachers and having them identify anyone who potentially met this criteria for exposure. We then further investigate and require anyone who has been exposed to quarantine. We already contacted those who we believe may have been exposed and will continue to do so if any additional information comes forward.

Please remind your students to follow the safety guidelines and protocols we have in place at school. **COVID19 is present in our community and it is not unusual that we experience confirmed cases at school.** Our challenge is to prevent its spread and mitigate it as soon as we identify cases. We are all in this together so please encourage your students to be respectful of those dealing with the virus and avoid the spreading of rumors. Thank you for your continued support of our school community and please let me know if you have any questions!

### **Free COVID Testing Information**

The state of Minnesota is trying to increase access to free COVID testing that does not require insurance. For more information, please visit: [MDH's COVID-19 Community Testing](#).

### **Additional Safety Measures at FIT Academy**

In order to provide our students with the safest possible onsite learning environment, we have taken several CDC recommended measures to maximize our building air flow and quality. In July we had all of our air filters upgraded to MERV level 10 rated air filters, which have smaller holes to better separate harmful particles from air circulation including those from Coronavirus coughs and sneezes. In August we increased our external air pull to occupied spaces by up to

20% and changed our damper positions to create the best possible air circulation for our HVAC system. Before school started we changed our system's occupied hours of steady airflow from school hours during the week to be active 24/7 so that air at FIT Academy is always moving. We have had half of the air ducts in the building cleaned before the start of school, and the remainder will be completed over MEA weekend. We are committed to prioritizing student health, and want you to be aware of the measures we are taking to provide the safest environment possible. Clean Air Restoration was kind enough to provide us with a significant discount so that we could clean all ducts this year!