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November 12, 2020

Dear Westhill Parents and Guardians:

The Westhill Central School District was informed today, November 12, 2020, by the Onondaga County Health Department, that a student at Westhill High School has tested positive for COVID-19. The Health Insurance Portability and Accounting Act (HIPPA) and other privacy laws restrict the District from disclosing or confirming any personally identifiable information and we cannot identify anyone who has tested positive. The student was last in attendance on November 9, 2020.

We have worked closely with the Onondaga County Health Department to identify this individual's contacts at the school. The Onondaga County Health Department will reach out to all contacts and advise on the need to quarantine and arrange testing for those exposed. If you do not hear from the school district or County Health Department, your child is not impacted.

The district has determined that the best course of action is to have remote learning for only those students and staff member identified to quarantine. All other students and classes will operate on their regular schedule.

As is always the case, the Onondaga County Health Department recommends to monitor all students for possible symptoms. Here is additional information from the Onondaga County Health Department:

- Some individuals exposed to COVID-19 may also become ill with COVID-19 themselves. If this happens, it is typically within 14 days of exposure. Because of this, your child will be placed on a Mandatory Quarantine for 14 days from their exposure. You will be given exact dates during your call or email from the Onondaga County Health Department personnel and **potentially** be able to return to school on the 15th day.
- Mandatory Quarantine means that your child cannot leave home during the dates provided by the County and the 14 days mentioned above. They cannot attend school, receive care at a public childcare center, or participate in activities outside of the home. You should have no additional visitors at your home during this time.
- If your child becomes ill during this time, please call your pediatrician. We recommend notifying your pediatrician as soon as possible that your child has been exposed to COVID-19, and ask them for any guidance specific to their health status.
- Mandatory Quarantine only applies to the positive case and exposed child. If you have other children or adults in the home, they may still participate in school, work and other activities outside of the home. They are not being quarantined.

- You can find additional resources on local testing options at: <https://covid19.ongov.net/>
 - Testing is available at the CNY Regional Market, F-Shed, 2100 Park Street (please enter from NBT Bank Parkway). The testing site will be open Monday-Friday from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Any child under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult who is able to provide parental consent. Insurance information will be collected, but there will be no out of pocket costs. Appointments are not required, but pre-registration is strongly recommended.
- All tested people are **REQUIRED TO REGISTER** by calling Upstate Medical COVID Hotline at **315-464-2582** and selecting option #3.

The district's highest priority is the health, welfare and safety of our students and staff. Thank you for all that you are doing to contribute to our success. Let's all continue to work together to stay healthy, so our schools can remain open.

Sincerely,



Casey W. Barduhn
Superintendent of Schools