



Board of Education

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PRESS RELEASE

DATE: February 17th, 2022

RE: Positive On-Campus COVID-19 Cases

Currituck County Schools is sending this release to inform you that a laboratory-confirmed positive COVID-19 case has been reported at Knotts Island Elementary (1), and Currituck County Middle School (1). Following the guidance established by NCDHHS, Currituck County Schools has notified Albemarle Regional Health Services (ARHS) of the positive cases and has initiated contact tracing.

ARHS and Currituck County Schools will follow the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) guidelines on contact tracing of all individuals who may have had close contact with a positive case. **Close contacts are defined as being within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes (cumulative), of a confirmed case patient.**

At the time of this release, all close contacts identified have been notified by Currituck County Schools.

When close contacts are identified, Currituck County Schools works with the patient to ensure all contacts are properly notified in a timely manner. Currituck County Schools and Albemarle Regional Health Services will adhere to the following:

- Local health department staff and/or a staff member from Currituck County Schools will contact the confirmed case patient and determine all people that patient has been in close contact with during the period they are contagious. Close contacts are defined as being within 6 feet for at least 15 minutes (cumulative), of a confirmed case patient. Caregivers and household members are considered close contact.
- Only those who had close contact with the confirmed case patient during the period they were contagious (defined as 48 hours prior to the date the patient developed symptoms up to the time the patient went into isolation) are notified.
- CCS Staff will instruct contacts to monitor for symptoms and advise the close contact about quarantine procedures and duration.

Currituck County Schools understands the importance of communication, while maintaining confidentiality in accordance with FERPA, NCGS § 130A-143, and all other state and federal laws. We look forward to working together to serve our children's health, safety, and academic needs.