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Dear Discovery School Parents, Staff, and School Community,

As our world continues to fight the spread of COVID-19, we believe that one of our greatest responsibilities is to communicate transparently and often with you, our school community. Nothing is more important to us than the health and safety of our students, our employees, and our families. Unfortunately, we are seeing an uptick in cases being reported; both within the school and in student households. We have learned today that **one of our non-teaching staff members in the K-6 building has tested positive for Covid-19.** We are, first and foremost, thinking of them & their family; hoping for minimal symptoms and a speedy recovery.

The unfortunate news for our school community is that this staff member is in every classroom & restroom (in the K-6 building) every day. This **does not mean** that every student has been deemed a close contact. However, there are **3 classes** that are deemed close contacts because of interactions they have in the lunchroom. In this setting, the students are unmasked for more than 15 minutes and their food & drink items are being handled by the staff member, in many cases (cutting things, microwaving items, opening milk/juice, etc.) As a result, **Grade 4 (Mr. Smith,) Grade 2 (Mrs. Sidders,) and Grade K/1 (Ms. Parsons) are being asked to quarantine until Sunday, May 16th (10 days.)** **Distance-learning will be implemented from Monday, May 10th and run through Friday, May 14.** We know that this situation is very difficult for families & we do not wish to cause inconvenience. But, we must follow the guidance of our local Health Department regulations and do all that we can to prevent the spread of this virus any further within the school community.

It is especially important right now to be monitoring your child for changes in their health as it relates to this virus. For grades 4, 2, and the K/1 combo, please check your child's temperature twice daily all throughout their quarantine period. Seek medical attention if your child develops a fever or any new symptoms. Known symptoms include, but are not limited to:

- nasal congestion
- nausea/vomiting/diarrhea
- loss of taste and smell
- body aches and fatigue
- a new cough

Preventing the spread of this virus requires the vigilance of everyone at school, at home, and out in the community. We are committed to taking every action necessary to protect our students, our staff, and our families. Do not hesitate to contact us via email if you have any questions. Stay safe and well!

Sincerely,

Julie Schwartz

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Ruth Maurer

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To provide each child the educational opportunity to discover, with perseverance and imagination, the joy of learning and the interconnectedness of our world.