

# SPARTANS

## SOUTHERN LEHIGH

Dear Parents/Guardians or Staff Member:

I am writing to communicate that the Southern Lehigh School District was notified of a positive case of COVID-19 at Hopewell Elementary. The student was last in attendance on Thursday, November 19, 2020. The Southern Lehigh School District continues to work with the Pennsylvania Department of Health in all matters related to COVID-19 and all students or staff who have been deemed a “close contact” ([PA Department of Health Definition](#)) will receive an additional correspondence from **BOTH** the **Southern Lehigh School District** and the **Pennsylvania Department of Health** with further guidance on what to do next. The Southern Lehigh School District will continue to follow the procedures outlined in the [District Health and Safety Plan](#) and specifically the [Exclusion From and Return to School Document](#). Under these guidelines, all students or staff constituting as a “close contact” will be required to quarantine for at least 14 days from the last date of “contact.” In accordance with the updated [Recommendations for Pre-K to 12 Schools Following Identification of a Case\(s\) of COVID-19](#), Southern Lehigh sought closure guidance from the DOH on Wednesday evening. Hopewell is currently closed for 5 days and that closure is inline with the recommendation from the DOH and PDE. **In-person instruction under the Hybrid Model WILL CONTINUE at Hopewell Elementary School on Tuesday, 12/1.** However, future COVID-19 cases **MAY REQUIRE** the district to shift to a remote model at Hopewell Elementary School.

The Southern Lehigh School District continues to encourage all parents/guardians and staff to complete the [Daily Health Screener](#) including an at home temperature check. All members of the Southern Lehigh School District community should follow the procedures outlined on the Daily Health Screener in the event that symptoms related to COVID-19 are present. Southern Lehigh School District students and staff must continue to closely monitor themselves for any sign of illness related to COVID-19 and seek medical guidance as needed. The Pennsylvania Department of Health provides the following guidance specific to the symptoms of [COVID-19](#).

If you have any questions about COVID-19 or the related symptoms, please call the PA Department of Health at 1-877-PA-Health, Lehigh County representatives from the Pennsylvania Department of Health at 610-821-6770, or schedule a virtual visit at [St. Luke's](#) (1-866-STLUKES, option 7) or [LVHN](#), (888-402-LVHN).

Thank you in advance for your diligence in helping the Southern Lehigh School District mitigate COVID-19 in our community. We appreciate your support and the District will continue to work in partnership with the Pennsylvania Department of Health throughout the ongoing pandemic. Finally, I urge you to also respect the privacy of our students and staff. As always, please feel free to contact me via email at [ruhft@slsd.org](mailto:ruhft@slsd.org) with questions.

Thomas Ruhf  
Administrator on Special Assignment