Dear Parents and Guardians,

Jefferson Local Schools and Madison County Public Health are deeply committed to the safety and health of our students and staff. As part of that commitment to the entire school community and in accordance with Ohio Department of Health orders, we are informing you that a student(s) at West Jefferson Middle School has been diagnosed with COVID-19.

We are working with Madison County Public Health (MCPH) to identify those students who are considered at risk of being exposed and may be placed in quarantine. Just because your student shared a space with this person does not mean they are a "close contact." Close contacts are those people who meet certain time and distance criteria of exposure to the case. If you are not contacted by phone or email directly by MCPH your student is not considered a close contact. Jefferson Local Schools currently allows students who are exposed at school and are a close contact to attend school and participate in extracurricular activities as long as they are symptom free. This is true regardless of their vaccination status.

We ask all parents and staff to take these steps to help limit the spread of COVID-19 and keep our schools open:

 Continue to check your student for COVID-19 symptoms daily. The symptoms of COVID-19 include fever (over 100°F), chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea. If your student has any of these symptoms please keep your student at home and consult with your doctor.

We are continuing to balance the physical, social, emotional, and mental health of all the students of the Jefferson Local School District. For the latest information please visit our school website or

https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/dashboards/schools-and-children/schools.