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April 22, 2021

Dear Career-Tech Center school community,

We were informed by Grand Traverse County Health Department officials Thursday, April 22, 2021 of a positive school associated case of COVID-19 at the Northwest Education Services Career-Tech Center. This means the individual was on school property during an infectious period of time. A thorough cleaning of the building was completed and the health department does not recommend that the school take further action at this time.

All individuals identified as close contacts in this case investigation have been notified by health department or school officials. If you have not been contacted by the health department or school officials, that means you have not been in close contact with the person who tested positive.

Our safety practices and sanitizing protocols are designed to significantly reduce student exposure within this regional center for education. Each CTC program functions as a contained classroom with strategic social distancing arrangements which play a key role in successfully mitigating the spread of the virus.

Students, parents, staff and community members are reminded of the importance of following safety protocols to help the school community slow the spread of COVID-19. Please continue to be vigilant by limiting social gatherings, frequently washing hands, and wearing a mask while in public places. As always, we encourage everyone to continue to monitor for symptoms such as fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea. Stay home if you feel sick and get tested if you are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19.

Thank you for understanding that, due to medical privacy laws, we are not able to release the names of the individual with COVID-19. With your participation, we believe we can maintain a safe environment while also providing quality education.

Communication about this case has been posted to the <u>Northwest Education Services COVID-19 web page</u>, as required by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS). More about COVID-19 Close Contact & Quarantine Information and FAQs <u>are provided here</u>.

If you have concerns about this matter, please contact me directly. We will continue to work to keep our school community safe and keep you informed every step of the way.

Sincerely,

Pat Lamb Assistant Superintendent of Career & Technical Education 231-922-6260