

October 27, 2020

Dear Oak Park School Community,

We were informed by the Grand Traverse Health Department on Tuesday, October 27, 2020 of a positive school associated case of COVID-19 at TBAISD Oak Park School. This means an individual was on school property during an infectious period of time. We are currently working with the health department in the investigation of this case.

In order to allow adequate time for the Grand Traverse County Health Department to complete contact tracing and out of abundance of caution we have decided to close the TBAISD Oak Park School program for students with autism for two days, October 28 and 29. The center will transition to remote learning for TBAISD students and staff during the two-day closure. This closure will give the health department the necessary time to complete contact tracing and inform any staff and/or student(s) that may have come in contact with the individual who tested positive. If you are not contacted by the health department, that means you have not been in close contact with the person who tested positive.

This program closure does not impact the TCAPS preschool program students and staff or Oak Park satellite programs at other school facilities. During the closure, the district will thoroughly clean and disinfect classrooms within the building while staff and students are not present.

We recommend taking action to help limit the spread of COVID-19, even if staff members or students are not experiencing symptoms:

- **Wear a mask** (covering mouth and nose) while in public places or if people who do not live with you must visit your home.
- **Practice social distancing** by maintaining 6 feet away from others
- **Practice frequent handwashing** (using soap for 20 seconds or hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol).
- **Follow [capacity restrictions](#)** of social gatherings.
- **Cover coughs and sneezes** with a tissue or with the inside of your elbow and immediately wash your hands.
- **Stay home if you are sick**; you can also [get tested](#).

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.

Please feel free to contact me directly if you have questions about this matter. We have included contact information to local health departments and encourage you to call them any time with your questions or concerns about COVID-19.

Grand Traverse County Health Department
Traverse City - 231-995-6111

Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department
Benzie Office - 231-882-4409
Leelanau Office - 231-256-0200

District Health Department #10 (serving Kalkaska county)
Kalkaska Office - 231-258-8669

Health Department of Northwest Michigan (serving Antrim county)
Bellaire Office - 231-533-8670

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)
COVID-19 Hotline at 888-535-6136 or visit Michigan.gov/Coronavirus.

Communication about this case has been posted to the [TBAISD COVID-19 web page](#), as required by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS). More about COVID-19 Close Contact & Quarantine Information and FAQs [are provided here](#).

We know this is a challenging time for all our Life Skills Center families and staff. We are in this together! We will continue to provide ongoing support and keep you informed every step of the way.

Sincerely,

Marc Wills, Ed.S
Supervisor
Oak Park School
231-933-8660