



## Augusta County School Board

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Dr. Eric W. Bond  
Superintendent

November 6, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians/Staff:

Augusta County Public Schools is informing parents, guardians and staff that one student at Buffalo Gap High School has been diagnosed with COVID-19. It is believed that they contracted the virus within the community. The student is on the all virtual learning model and was last in the building on September 30th and the local health department has determined there was no exposure to any student or staff within our school. This letter is being sent for your general knowledge.

Exposure is defined as being closer than six (6) feet in distance for a daily cumulation of 15 minutes within two (2) days of a person having COVID-19 symptoms. There is no indication at this time that you or your child has been exposed. **Six foot distancing** is a major key in avoiding exposure to the virus.

Parents should continue to monitor their own health and the health of their families for [COVID-19 symptoms](#). Children with COVID-19 generally have mild, cold-like symptoms, such as fever, runny nose, and cough. Vomiting and diarrhea have also been reported in some children.

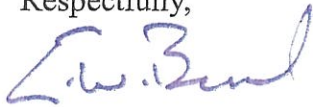
People without symptoms do not need to seek care or be tested. Those who become ill should contact their healthcare provider. Their doctor, in consultation with public health officials, will determine appropriate care and whether testing is necessary. If your child has been exposed to or diagnosed with COVID-19, please report this to your school. This information will be kept confidential. Schools continue to utilize Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommendations on [Reopening Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting Public Spaces](#), to reduce viral transmission and keep our children and school personnel healthy and safe. Parents and family members can assist this effort by promoting healthy behaviors and following these practices:

- Stay home from school or work if sick, even if symptoms are mild.
- Wear a face covering in areas where physical distancing is difficult to maintain.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue (or sleeve), and then throw the tissue in the trash. Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60 percent alcohol.
- Avoid touching the eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces that are often touched.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Take care of your health overall. Stay current on your vaccinations, including the flu vaccine, eat well, and exercise to help your body stay resilient.

The [Virginia Department of Health](#) provides information about COVID-19 and [frequently asked questions \(FAQ\)](#) from parents and concerned family members. The CDC offers [tips](#) to keep children healthy during this time. The Virginia Department of Education's produced [COVID-19: A Parent Guide for School Age Children](#) and provides additional considerations for [students with disabilities](#), [guidance for military families](#) and [social emotional wellness for parents and caregivers](#).

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Eric W. Bond". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "E".

Eric W. Bond, Ed. D  
Superintendent