



Dear KCSD Families,

As we prepare for the third day of in-person instruction in the Knoxville Community School District, I would like to provide you with an update on our Essential Worker protocols. Based on new guidance from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, nearly all employees of the district are considered essential.

Per our protocol, any KCSD employees who have been exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 and who do not have any symptoms may be required to continue working while following stringent safety precautions.

It is important to note that Marion County Public Health defines exposure as being around a person with COVID-19 within a six-foot radius for 15 minutes or longer. This standard applies even if either or both parties were wearing a mask at the time.

If an employee has potentially been exposed to COVID-19, they will need to take the following safety precautions:

- Wear a mask and face shield, except when individually isolated in a classroom or office for 14 days following the exposure,
- When eating, isolate in a classroom or office for the 14 days following the exposure,
- Wash hands frequently or use hand sanitizer when hand washing is not available,
- Monitor temperature twice daily; stay home if temperature is 100.4 degrees or higher, or if temperature is higher than what is normal for you, and
- Monitor for other symptoms; stay home if symptoms appear.

We believe these precautions will help minimize risk and prevent the spread of COVID-19 and other diseases in our school buildings.

So far, our students have been doing a terrific job with wearing their masks, social distancing, and following our other health and safety protocols. We ask that everyone keep up the great work. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cassi Pearson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Cassi Pearson, Superintendent
Knoxville Community School District