



# Dunklin R-5 School District

497 Joachim Ave.  
Herculaneum, MO 63048  
(636) 479-5200  
#GoBlackcats

November 19, 2020

Dunklin R-5 School District Parents/Guardians

Earlier today our administrative team was notified that a student wrestler received a lab-confirmed positive COVID-19 test. The wrestler was last in school on November 18, 2020. As wrestling is a contact sport that takes place inside a gymnasium, it was determined out of an abundance of caution, students participating in wrestling practices on November 18, 2020 are being asked to not to return to school for 14 days from the date of contact. Students who practiced on Wednesday November 18, 2020 may return to school on Thursday December 3, 2020. Coaches that are full-time employees of the district were giving students their MSHSAA approved hydration tests to determine weight classes for the 2020-2021 wrestling season. They had no direct contact with the athletes. Our off-staff coaches did have direct contact with the student and they are taking the appropriate steps to contain the virus.

It is very alarming that this has occurred; but, it is most certainly a reminder to the fact that while the District will make every effort to provide a safe and healthy environment for our students and staff, there are inherent risks with participation in group activities. While we cannot guarantee that students or faculty members will not be exposed to the virus, our district will continue to prioritize the safety of everyone involved in all school activities and make every effort to minimize those risks.

As we have done throughout this school year, all areas of Herculaneum High School and Taylor Early Childhood (location of wrestling practices) will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected. According to the Centers for Disease Control, symptoms can range from mild to severe and may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. If you are exhibiting symptoms or believe you may have been exposed, please call your medical provider.

The safety of our staff and students remains our top priority. As a school community, we will continue to follow the recommended guidelines from county health officials. Please remember to wash your hands, social distance and wear a mask.

Respectfully,  
Dr. Clint Freeman  
Dunklin R-5 Superintendent of Schools