



# SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE BOROUGH OF BRENTWOOD

## Administrative Offices

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## Brentwood High School

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## Guidance Office

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## Brentwood Middle School

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## Special Education Office

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## Elroy Elementary School

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Pittsburgh, PA 15227-2824  
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## Moore Elementary School

3809 Dalewood Street  
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## Athletic/Activity Director

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November 6, 2020

Dear Brentwood Borough School District Families,

As I informed you on October 23, 2020 letter, the Allegheny County Health Department (“ACHD”) has been investigating a case of active tuberculosis (“TB”) in a student at Brentwood High School. This student had attended school remotely from the beginning of the current school year, is receiving medication to treat the illness, and is no longer infectious.

With this, the ACHD and the Brentwood Borough School District have been working closely to identify and arrange testing for those who had close contact with the student. District administration hosted a Zoom informational meeting with our staff, families, and the ACHD.

As a follow up to this extended testing, the District was informed that five employees tested positive for TB. The ACHD emphasized that the employees are not infectious. These results assisted the ACHD in determining that the testing of the students within close contact with the student was necessary. The District reached out via phone to each impacted family and followed up with an email including the necessary paperwork for testing. If your family did not receive a phone call and an email, then your child did not have close contact with the student so to require testing.

The number of students being tested is out of an abundance of caution with the students’ and their families’ health being foremost in mind. Testing is being conducted through the ACHD on November 16 and November 17, 2020. TB investigations begin at the center of a bullseye target. If a positive test is detected in the center of the bullseye the investigation moves to the next circle on the target to include those with close contact with the person who had a positive TB test. The pattern is repeated until no positive TB tests are identified.

A second Zoom information session for staff has been scheduled for Monday, November 9 at 3:30pm. Another Zoom information session will be scheduled for families after the student results are shared with the District.

As was stated in the October 26, 2020 Zoom session, TB is a serious disease but is rare, preventable and treatable with antibiotics. A person with latent or inactive TB is non-infectious. A person with active TB will become non-infectious within a few days to weeks of effective treatment and will be able to return to normal activities without risk to others while completing treatment.

While the ACHD and the District have been proactive in identifying and contacting those that may be at risk, people should seek medical attention if they believe that they may be ill.

Symptoms of TB can include a cough of longer than three weeks, unexplained weight loss, night sweats, chills, fever and coughing up blood. Symptoms for TB do not come and go, but rather symptoms become worse as time passes.

The ACHD and Brentwood Borough School District will continue to work closely together to ensure that all precautions are being taken for the safety of students and staff. The ACHD Pulmonary Center is open for TB tests and to answer any questions about the disease. Please call 412-578-8162 for more information. Included with this letter is an FAQ sheet. We encourage families to review the FAQ and draft a list of questions for the information sessions scheduled above.

As to cases involving specific individuals, please understand that while the District and ACHD are attempting to resolve this matter, students and employee privacy must be respected. The District will take all action to protect public health, but the privacy rights of those impacted will be maintained.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Amy M. Burch', written in a cursive style.

Amy M. Burch, D.Ed.,  
Superintendent of the Brentwood Borough School District