



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE BOROUGH OF BRENTWOOD

Administrative Offices

3601 Brownsville Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15227-3117
Phone: 412-881-2227
Fax: 412-881-1640

Brentwood High School

3601 Brownsville Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15227-3117
Phone: 412-881-4940
Fax: 412-881-4170

Guidance Office

3601 Brownsville Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15227-3117
Phone: 412-881-4940 x2131
Fax: 412-881-4170

Brentwood Middle School

3601 Brownsville Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15227-3117
Phone: 412-881-4940
Fax: 412-881-4170

Special Education Office

3601 Brownsville Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15227-3117
Phone: 412-881-4940 x2215
Fax: 412-881-7195

Elroy Elementary School

3129 Elroy Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15227-2824
Phone: 412-881-4484
Fax: 412-881-9448

Moore Elementary School

3809 Dalewood Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15227-3509
Phone: 412-881-7776
Fax: 412-881-8994

Athletic/Activity Director

3601 Brownsville Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15227-3117
Phone: 412-881-4940 x2720
Fax: 412-881-1640

October 23, 2020

Dear Brentwood Borough School District Families,

The sharing of consistent and detailed information has been vital throughout the COVID-19 Pandemic. Each time the District received information about positive COVID-19 cases or changes to the guidance or requirements, the information was shared with our families and community. In keeping with this commitment, we are reaching out to you about news we received from the Allegheny County Health Department (ACHD).

The ACHD is investigating a case of active tuberculosis (TB) in a student at Brentwood High School. The student has attended school remotely from the beginning of the current school year, is receiving medication to treat the illness, and is expected to resume normal activities in the near future.

The Health Department and the Brentwood Borough School District are working closely to identify those who may have been exposed and to arrange testing. Close contacts of the student and the student's family have been tested. If additional close contacts are identified, they will be contacted and instructed on testing.

We shared this information with the Middle- High School teachers and staff that may have had close contact with the student prior to the current school year and as a precaution they will be tested next week. The remainder of the District teachers and staff were notified this morning of the case.

We are keenly aware that this news will be extremely unsettling to our families. It is for this reason that we requested the ACHD schedule informational Zoom meetings for our staff and our families.

Our staff will participate in the first session on Monday, October 26 at 3:00pm and a second session that will be geared towards our families is scheduled for Monday, October 26 at 6:00pm. Registration for the family session is required. The registration information will be sent to our families in a separate communication.

Tuberculosis is an infectious bacterial disease that is spread only through the air from one person to another. TB cannot be spread by casual contact like kissing, shaking hands or hugging or through sharing food, drinks or utensils. Also, it cannot be spread via surfaces. The only way to contract the disease is to breathe in the bacteria by being extremely close to an infected person for a long period of time while they are coughing, sneezing, singing, or talking.

Tuberculosis is a serious disease but is rare, preventable and treatable with antibiotics. A person with 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. Symptoms of TB can include a cough of longer than three weeks, unexplained weight loss, night sweats, chills, fever and coughing up blood.

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 the ACHD at 412-578-8162 for more information. Also, feel free to call my office at 412-881-2227 ext. 2400.

Included with this letter is an FAQ sheet. We encourage families to review the FAQ and draft a list of questions for the information session scheduled for Monday, October 26 at 6:00pm.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Amy M. Burch', with a stylized, flowing script.

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