



Dr. Brian Otott
Superintendent

March 16, 2020

Dear Shelton Elementary School Families,

This letter is to inform you that today the Department of Public Health (DPH) notified us they have confirmed an employee at Shelton Elementary School has contracted the COVID-19 coronavirus. The health of our students and staff is our highest concern, and as Shelton Elementary and all other Paulding County schools are closed at this time, we will be conducting a thorough cleaning of the facility using a commercial virucide disinfectant. This will be an additional step to the ongoing disinfecting/sanitizing taking place in all Paulding County schools and buses during the closure. We want you to know that over the last several weeks the school district's COVID-19 Task Force has been planning for this scenario and has initiated steps that follow DPH and state Department of Education guidance for a confirmed case in a school.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the DPH believe that most people will not develop serious illness, but advise that everyone should operate under the assumption that there is COVID-19 transmission in our community already and that we all need to remain vigilant. We can help prevent the spread of the virus by practicing basic but essential preventive hygiene, especially diligent hand-washing, covering coughs and sneezes, and social distancing. **However, if you or your child should experience symptoms, especially respiratory symptoms, the Department of Public Health advises that you should immediately contact your local health care provider.** Your physician or pediatrician will be able to provide the best health care advice.

Privacy laws prohibit us from sharing details of this specific case. Our Task Force will continue to monitor developments closely and update our community. Please continue to check the school district's COVID-19 Coronavirus Updates Web site for information at www.paulding.k12.ga.us, or from the link you can find on your school Web site.

Thank you for your support, and please stay tuned for further updates.