

Dr. Gina Driskell
Principal

Prairie Hills S.T.E.A.M. Academy
3035 163rd Street
Markham, IL 60428
(708) 985-9401

October 31, 2022

Dear Parents,

This letter is to inform you that a student/staff member at Prairie-Hills S.T.E.A.M. Academy has tested positive for COVID-19. We are following guidance from the Illinois Department of Public Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to protect the health and safety of our students and staff. The student/staff member will be quarantined for 5 days and return to school as long as they are not displaying any symptoms.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of this situation, and to encourage you to observe your child to ensure that they don't exhibit any COVID-19 symptoms. If your child tests positive for COVID-19 then they must remain home for five days. If symptoms improve and your child is fever-free for 24 hours without taking fever-reducing medicine, they may return to school wearing a mask for days 6 through 10. If they are unable to wear a mask, they should stay home for an additional five days. We are prepared to provide remote devices for all students who are quarantined due to COVID-19. However, the devices must be returned when the student returns to school.

Please be advised that the symptoms of COVID-19 are below:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

If your child displays any of these symptoms, please keep them home and have them tested for COVID-19. There are free COVID Testing kits available via the resources listed below.

Resources:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/quarantine-isolation.html>

<https://www.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-childcare-guidance.html>

Finally, Prairie-Hills S.T.E.A.M. Academy conducts weekly COVID-19 testing on Wednesdays. Additional testing will occur throughout the district on Fridays. Please contact our office, 708-985-2401 if you would like your child retested.

Prairie-Hills Elementary School District 144 remains committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for our students and staff. Thank you for your continual support and cooperation with our COVID-19 mitigation procedures.

As always, please don't hesitate to contact me, 708-985-2401 (school office) or 708-297-6983 (cell) with any questions, comments or concerns.

Sincerely,



Dr. Gina Driskell