



*Florham Park Public Schools*  
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December 3, 2020

**RE: COVID-19 Positive - Ridgedale School (Closed 14 days) Reopen - December 18, 2020**

Dear Parents/Guardians & Staff,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that on December 3, 2020, the district was informed of another individual within the Ridgedale Middle School classroom setting who has tested positive for COVID-19. This individual does not ride the bus and there was no individual determined to be a Close Contact. As per the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) guidelines, a school must consider closing for 14 days based on the investigation by the local health department if the school meets the following scenario “*2 or more cases are identified within 14 days that occur across multiple classrooms, are not linked to exposures outside the school setting, and a clear connection between cases cannot be easily identified.*” In accordance with NJDOH guidance, and in consultation with our local health department following its investigation, it was determined that the **Ridgedale Middle School will be closed through Thursday, December 17, 2020.**

The Ridgedale School will move to a distance learning model from Friday, December 4, 2020 through Thursday, December 17, 2020 (14 days). During this time, we will continue to follow the hybrid bell schedule. **We will reopen the Ridgedale School and return to our hybrid model of instruction on Friday, December 18, 2020.** During this time, the Briarwood School and Brooklake School will not be closed and will continue to operate in its current hybrid model of instruction.

This is a fluid situation and our local health department is working with school personnel to conduct all necessary contact tracing, which will continue throughout the coming days. As we continue to navigate the changing conditions of this pandemic, let us continue to work together in being vigilant in our approaches to this public health crisis. Please continue to wear masks, regularly sanitize your hands, and practice good social distancing. As always, the safety of our students and staff remains our top priority. Should you have any questions about this situation, please feel free to contact the school nurse or principal.

Additionally, below are some resources that might be helpful.

**RESOURCES** → NJDOH Link: [NJDOH COVID-19 Information for Communities and the General Public](#)  
→ CDC Links: [Get the Facts about Coronavirus](#), [Symptoms of COVID-19](#), [Testing](#),  
[How to Protect Yourself](#), [What to Do if You Are Sick](#)

Please note that all actions and protocols the District has taken regarding COVID-19 have been and continues to be done in consultation with and following recommendations from our local health department.

Thank you again for your understanding and your shared commitment to the education of our students.

Sincerely,

*Steven Caponegro*

Dr. Steven Caponegro

cc: School Nurse  
Mr. Thomas Cantisano, Florham Park Health Officer