



**B.E.S.T. ACADEMY (6-12)**  
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**ADMINISTRATION**  
DR. TIMOTHY JONES, PRINCIPAL  
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MR. ROBERT WILLIAMS, ASST. PRINCIPAL

March 29, 2021

Dear BEST Academy Family:

We received notification today, March 29, 2021, that two BEST Academy employees tested positive for COVID-19. One of these individuals most recently reported to the school today, March 29, 2021 and the other reported on Friday, March 26, 2021. Out of an abundance of caution, it is imperative that we share this notification.

At this time, based on further investigation, we have already identified all close contacts.

If there is any additional information, we will share it as needed with those individuals and the greater community.

***Note that for COVID-19, a close contact is defined as any individual who was within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to positive specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated.***

I know that receiving the information that employees at BEST Academy have tested positive for COVID-19 is unsettling for many of you, I want to assure you that the BEST Academy administration, in collaboration with Atlanta Public Schools District Office, are taking this seriously. We are following the guidance of health officials every step of the way. Health officials have advised us to practice the following preventative measures shared to stop the spread of COVID-19:

- Participate in the weekly COVID Surveillance Testing offered at the school.
- Practice social distancing by avoiding mass gatherings, and maintaining distance (i.e., no close contact with individuals, maintain a distance of more than 6 feet, and if within 6 feet, less than 10 minutes for any interaction) from others when possible.
- Avoid crowded places where close contact with others may occur, such as shopping centers, movie theaters and stadiums.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid touching yours eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.

- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
- Please seek medical attention if you or family member feels ill or is exhibiting flu-like symptoms.
- Please continue to exercise the recommended health precautions.

In addition, I'd like to share a number of resources provided by public health officials that help shed more light on the Coronavirus and on the steps you can take to stay healthy. APS has compiled information from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the Board of Health, and other health officials on its Coronavirus webpage at [www.atlantapublicschools.us/coronavirus](http://www.atlantapublicschools.us/coronavirus). Just scroll down the page and you will find those resources.

Here are quick links to some of the resources on the District's Coronavirus page:

1. [COVID-19 and You](#)
2. [Slow the Spread of COVID-19](#)
3. [15 Days to Slow the Spread](#)
4. [COVID19-Symptoms](#)
5. [Stop the Spread of Germs](#)
6. [What to Do If You Are Sick with COVID-19](#)
7. [10 Things To Do At Home If You Have COVID](#)

Lastly, the state of Georgia has established a COVID-19 Hotline to answer questions about the virus. That number is [\(844\) 442-2681](tel:8444422681). I encourage you to take advantage of these resources to learn more about COVID-19 and your health. Let's work together to keep ourselves and our families healthy.

Sincerely,



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