

# Lewis Cass Intermediate School District

Learning For All...Whatever It Takes

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January 8, 2020

Dear Lewis Cass Intermediate School District parents, staff, and community members:

We received notification that an individual associated with our school district – a staff member at Brookside Learning Center– tested positive for COVID-19. While we must protect the privacy of the individual involved, we believe it is best to communicate transparently with you so you can make well-informed decisions for your family.

There is nothing more important to Lewis Cass Intermediate School District than the safety and health of our students, our staff, and their families. We are working directly with county health officials to address this situation. This staff member did not have any contacts in any school buildings that require anyone to quarantine.

COVID-19 is transmitted through person-to-person contact and through the exchange of respiratory droplets. As more cases are being confirmed across the state, including in our community, it is important to be sensible, but to also be vigilant. Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough and shortness of breath. If you or any member of your family exhibit these symptoms, please contact your medical provider for advice immediately. Symptoms usually appear 2-14 days after exposure.

Lewis Cass ISD will continue to clean and disinfect surfaces inside all district schools, including Brookside Learning Center. As more cases are being confirmed across the state, it is important to remain vigilant. The CDC recommends the following best practices to help prevent the spread of this global pandemic:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Use alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid close contact with those who are sick.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Avoid touching your eyes, mouth and nose.
- Disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects.
- Stay at home, if possible.
- If you must go out, practice social distancing, leaving at least six feet between you and other people.
- Avoid gatherings that include more than 10 people.

If you would like to learn more about COVID-19, the following links are reliable and accurate sources for information:

[CDC COVID-19 Info](#) [Talking to Children About COVID-19](#) [Michigan.gov/coronavirus](http://Michigan.gov/coronavirus) [Vbcassdhd.org/coronavirus](http://Vbcassdhd.org/coronavirus)

Our greatest priority is the safety of our students, staff and community members. Please continue to take necessary precautions to protect yourself and those around you. It is important to remember that children are greatly influenced by the reactions of adults when facing difficult circumstances. I encourage everyone to remain calm and to be empathic and respectful to those affected.

*We exist to promote the growth and wellbeing of the children of Cass County by meeting the unique needs of our local school districts, families, and community.*

We are grateful for the opportunity to serve you and your family, especially as we face this challenging situation together. Thank you for your support of Lewis Cass Intermediate School District.

**VBCDHD is working closely with our local medical community to address COVID-19**

**The Van Buren/Cass District Health Department is not currently testing at our location.**

If an individual suspects they have COVID-19 symptoms, they should stay home and take one of the following steps:

1. Call their primary care provider (PCP) via telephone
2. Do a virtual visit with their health system/provider
3. Contact one of the three **Care Advisor Phone Numbers or Web Pages** provided by our local health systems. \*these numbers are helpful for individuals who do not have a PCP.

***\*If your symptoms are life-threatening call 9-1-1***

Care Advisor Phone Numbers and Webpages

**Bronson** (269) 341-7788

[www.bronsonhealth.com/coronavirus-covid-19](http://www.bronsonhealth.com/coronavirus-covid-19)

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**Ascension Borgess** (833) 978-0649

[www.healthcare.ascension.org](http://www.healthcare.ascension.org)

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**Spectrum Health Lakeland** (616) 391-2380

<https://www.spectrumhealthlakeland.org/covid19>

\*a Chatbot is available online

\*Drive-up testing is available but all patients require a physician's order to be tested.

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**InterCare Health Network** (855) 869-6980

<https://www.intercare.org/covid-19.html>

\*Drive-thru testing is available. Individuals do NOT have to have a lab order (does NOT have to be InterCare only)