Dear Parents and Guardians,

 We greatly appreciate your concern and cooperation to help us ensure the safety of your child(ren) and all of those attending school this year. Below you will find very important information on how to know if you should keep your child home and what to do if he or she needs to be picked up from school.

**Before school each morning**, you should check your child’s temperature and screen him or her for any of these symptoms:

High-risk:

* New or worsening cough
* Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
* New loss of taste or smell
* Fever (temperature of 100.4°F or greater) or feeling feverish

Other:

* Sore throat
* Muscle aches and pains
* Headache
* Nasal congestion or runny nose
* Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or abdominal pain

You should keep your child at home if he or she has any of these symptoms. Also, if your child is behaving as though he or she does not feel well or feels feverish (feels cold, staying under blankets, shivering) or hot to the touch, your child should be kept home.

If your child has any of the higher-risk symptoms or two or more of the other symptoms, your child should be seen by his or her health care provider and should be tested for COVID-19 if at all possible.

Symptoms can begin at any time of the day. Teachers and staff members at school will be looking for these symptoms in children throughout the day and checking temperatures as needed. **If you are called to pick your child up from school**, it is very important that you arrive within one hour. If your child has siblings in school, they will be dismissed also. If available, providing two or three emergency contacts with updated phones numbers is important in case you are unable to answer the phone or leave work, but do not send anyone who is high-risk for severe COVID (such as a grandparent older than 65 or anyone who has a weak immune system). When picking up your child, you must wear a mask into the school.

If your child has an illness that is unlikely to be COVID-19 (one low-risk symptom resolving in 24-48 hours) he or she may return to school when symptoms have gotten better and he or she is fever free for more than 24 hours without the help of medication. Your child does not need to see a doctor or be tested to return to school. If your child does not get better quickly, he or she should be seen by a doctor and possibly tested for COVID-19.

If someone your child has been in contact with at school tests positive for COVID-19, you will be notified and receive detailed instruction on whether or not your child needs to be kept home for an extended period of time and/or tested for COVID-19.

To learn more about keeping your child and others safe at school, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/parent-checklist.html>.

Thank you for your partnership,