

**CAMPUS EMAIL**  
**March 18, 2020**

Important Coronavirus Information for Tobias Elementary

Dear Tobias Family,

This morning we were notified by the health department that a person, an adult, who was on campus last week on March 11, 2020 has tested positive for the novel coronavirus. This person was asymptomatic (not displaying symptoms) at the time, but later developed symptoms of fever and tested positive for COVID-19.

The health department has stated the risk of transmission is low for those on campus, but they recommend that all staff and students on campus [monitor themselves for symptoms](#) until March 25, 2020. The recommendation from the health department is monitoring only. At this time, there is no recommendation to quarantine or isolate. If symptoms such as fever, cough, or shortness of breath do develop, you should isolate from others and call your primary care provider or the health department if you do not have a primary care provider.

Because the person on campus could conceivably have had contact with anyone on campus, the guidance from the health department at this time remains the same for everyone on campus. To balance the need to protect medical privacy of individuals with the need to share information from a public health standpoint, the district is only identifying the person who was at Tobias Elementary as an adult. Should the need arise for additional guidance for any specific individuals, students or adults, we will work with the health department to contact those individuals individually.

The CDC provides guidance regarding [symptoms to look for](#) and [what do to if you do have symptoms](#). The CDC and health department stress that most people who develop symptoms do not need to seek medical attention and can be cared for at home.

As a precautionary measure, we have closed Tobias Elementary to any activity until further notice. We want to give any possible virus on surfaces in the building a chance to die on its own. And, we will disinfect the building using special cleaning equipment before we allow anyone back inside.

While this news may be concerning to learn, I want you to know that we are committed to providing you important information as we learn it, and we will take all necessary action to keep you, our staff, and community safe. Again, we would like to remind you, that the health department believes the risk transmission to students and staff is low.

Sincerely,  
Alisa DiPalma  
Principal

**DISTRICT EMAIL**  
**March 18, 2020**

Important Hays CISD Coronavirus Update

Dear Hays CISD Family,

In keeping with our promise to be completely transparent regarding coronavirus, we must report to you today that a person who was at Tobias Elementary School last Wednesday, March 11th, has since tested positive for the coronavirus. We notified the teachers, staff, and parents of Tobias Elementary just a few minutes ago and have posted the email we sent to them, with additional information, online at our coronavirus webpage: [www.hayscisd.net/coronavirus](http://www.hayscisd.net/coronavirus).

We are in close consultation with the Hays County Health Department regarding this matter. The Health Department wants us to stress that while there remains a low risk of transmission to people at Tobias Elementary, it is prudent for everyone to continue to take preventative measures, such as social distancing and hand washing. Additionally, Tobias Elementary is now closed to all personnel to allow time for any virus in the building to die on its own. Prior to any return to activity in the building, we will disinfect it using special cleaning equipment.

The person who had contact with Tobias Elementary and later tested positive to coronavirus is, along with that person's entire family, self-quarantined at home and recovering. The health department asked us to remind you that most people who show symptoms of coronavirus will not need to be hospitalized, but that those who do should contact their primary care physician for direction on what to do next.

We do not believe the person who had contact with Tobias Elementary had any contact with other campuses in Hays CISD within the window that the person could have been contagious for the virus.

Given the spread of the virus and the interconnectivity of our community, we have expected that there would eventually be a connection between one or more of our campuses to the coronavirus. We anticipate that future cases of people who test positive will also likely have some connection to our schools. Please continue to practice social distancing, hand washing, and other safe hygiene practices. We are all in this together and, together, we will make it through this health emergency and time of change to our normal routines.

Sincerely,  
Tim Savoy  
Chief Communication Officer