



Brownsville Independent School District

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July 9, 2020

Employees of the BISD Food and Nutrition Services Department (Via E-mail)

RE: Employees test positive for COVID-19

We were just informed that four employees of the Food and Nutrition Services Department has tested positive for COVID-19. Although we are not aware of any other employees in the department that have tested positive, in an abundance of caution, the Food and Nutrition Services Department's Administration, Warehouse, and Lopez Early College High School's cafeteria has been deeply sanitized and continues to be cleaned and sanitized on a daily basis. Based on the information that we have gathered, it has been determined that the end of the 14-day incubation period for anyone possibly exposed to the employees is July 9, 2020.

Employees from this department who have physically come in to work during the preceding two-week period, are directed to get tested for COVID-19. There are various testing facilities throughout the City of Brownsville and Cameron County and employees may utilize any of those testing sites; however, we are encouraging employees to contact BTX Cares at <https://btxcares.com> to set up an appointment to be tested.

In keeping with recently adopted district practices, employees may not return to work until they are screened and have tested negative. The employees will then share the test results with Carmelita Rodriguez, assistant superintendent for human resources and our nursing director, Rosa Pones, who will make the determination of when the employee may return to work. In the meantime, this is a non-exhaustive list of COVID-19 symptoms:

1. Cough, Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
2. Chills, Repeated trembling with chills
3. Headache, Muscle Pain, Sore throat
4. Red eyes
5. Headache, Sore throat
6. Diarrhea
7. Feeling feverish or a temperature measure greater than or equal to 100 degrees Fahrenheit.

If you or anyone you know is exhibiting any of the above symptoms, seek immediate medical attention and let your supervisor and human resources department know of your situation.

During these trying times, please rest assured that the health and safety of our employees is our first priority. If you have any questions or need more information regarding this matter, please contact Rosa Pones, director of nursing, or Carmelita Rodriguez, assistant superintendent for human resources.

BISD is continuing to monitor this situation and will provide additional information as needed. We hope for a speedy recovery for our district employees.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "René Gutiérrez".

Dr. René Gutiérrez
Superintendent of Schools

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