



For Immediate Release

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Statement from SFPS Superintendent Dr. Veronica C. Garcia on Two Positive COVID-19 Tests of Contract Employees---What happens at with this virus at home, doesn't stay at home

Santa Fe, NM - "On Wednesday morning, I was made aware of two contract employees who tested positive for COVID-19. These individuals are contracted from an outside company -- Maintenance Service Systems.

"It is of concern to me that, despite the District strictly following all protocols to keep employees safe, contract tracing has shown us that the two new positive cases in the District are directly connected to the two initial cases reported on Sunday. It appears that a tight social and familial circle outside of work may have led to this spread. We ask that everyone involved in the district - parents, students, faculty, staff, volunteers, employees, and contract employees - follow the New Mexico Department of Health and Centers for Disease Control guidelines.

"The recent series of cases in our district have shed a light on how important decisions made outside of work impact the workplace. What happens at home with this virus doesn't stay at home. Please, please, please we implore all of our employees, contract employees, and contractors to follow the guidelines: social distance, wear masks, wash your hands often, and don't come to work sick. If you've been exposed to someone who tests positive, get tested immediately and notify your supervisor. Testing will be covered by your insurance. If you don't have insurance, testing will be done free-of-charge.

"Since receiving this information, we have been in communication with the New Mexico Department of Health, and are strictly following all guidelines as well as properly notifying individuals who may have been in contact with those who tested positive.

“The privacy of those testing positive is of utmost importance, and per HIPAA, their identities will not be released to the public. The health and safety of our students, staff, and employees will continue to be our number one priority.”

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Santa Fe Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender identity, sexual orientation, HIV status, marital status, pregnancy, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following individuals have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies for the district:

Title IX Coordinator- 2195 W. Zia Rd., Santa Fe, NM 87505, Tel. 505-467-3400

Section 504 Coordinator- 1300 Camino Sierra Vista, Santa Fe, NM 87505 Tel. 505-467-2527