



**County of Moore
Health Department
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COVID-19 Cluster Identified at Robbins Elementary School

The Moore County Health Department, in conjunction with Moore County Schools, has been monitoring the status of confirmed positive COVID-19 test results associated with Robbins Elementary School (268 Rushwood Rd, Robbins). To date, six staff members associated with the school have been confirmed COVID-19 positive, meeting the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS) definition of a “cluster”. A “cluster” is defined as five or more cases over a fourteen-day period with linkage between cases.

The COVID-19 positive staff members are currently abiding by isolation orders. One classroom of students associated with the affected staff has been quarantined for a period of fourteen days. A remote learning plan will be implemented for those students while they are under quarantine.

This is Moore County’s first reported COVID-19 cluster in a public-school setting. On June 22, NCDHHS began public reporting of COVID-19 clusters in licensed/regulated school and childcare settings. Cluster reporting is new at the State level, but childcare centers and schools were already required to report COVID-19 cases, as well as other communicable diseases, to local health departments and to parents. For childcare centers and schools, NCDHHS uses the term “cluster” as opposed to “outbreak” because of the setting, as it can be difficult to accurately determine how transmission occurred and whether it occurred within the setting or from within the broader community.

You can find more detailed information regarding ongoing COVID-19 clusters in childcare and school settings in Moore and other NC Counties by accessing a report published by NCDHHS at:

<https://files.nc.gov/covid/documents/dashboard/Weekly-Ongoing-Clusters-in-Child-Care-and-School-Settings.pdf>

Health Department staff are monitoring individuals who have tested positive and will follow up with anyone who is identified as a close contact. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) defines “close contact” as being within six feet for 10 minutes or more. Close contacts of individuals who have tested positive will be informed by local health department officials and must quarantine for fourteen days. Students or staff who test positive can return to school once they meet all the following conditions:

“To Protect and Promote Health through Prevention and Control of Disease and Injury.”
<http://www.moorecountync.gov/health/>

**Environmental Health
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Fax: 910-947-5127**

**WIC
Telephone: 910-947-3271
Fax: 910-947-2460**

- At least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared or since the date tested
- At least 24 hours have passed since last fever – without the use of fever reducing medication
- Symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath) have improved

The Moore County Health Department continues to encourage everyone to “**Know Their W’s**” and continue to exercise caution when out in public: **W**ear a cloth face covering if you will be around other people, **W**ait six feet apart and avoid close contact, and **W**ash your hands often for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer.

In addition to these measures, everyone is urged to continue to adhere to the following guidelines:

- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home, especially if you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with your sleeve/elbow or with a tissue and be sure to throw the tissue in the trash.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Moore County’s Coronavirus (COVID-19) Dashboard can be found here:

<https://moorecounty.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/4c11e5bf79b64a6e9c8377d5129cc97c>

For more information about coronavirus and Moore County’s response, please visit www.moorecountync.gov/health, find us on Facebook (Moore County Health Department), and follow us on Twitter (@mocohealth).

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