



December 15, 2020

Dear Families and Staff,

We learned last evening that a staff member has tested positive for COVID-19. Due to federal health privacy laws, information regarding the staff member's identity cannot be released. Please respect the staff member's privacy during this difficult time.

We have reached out to the Lake County Health Department and will be working with them on next steps. We will support the health department in its handling of the process and the appropriate notifications. Health officials will be interviewing/reaching out/providing assistance directly to individuals with an elevated risk of exposure who may have been in recent close contact with the staff member. All individuals who have been directly impacted have been contacted. ***If you were not directly contacted by the school, you or your scholar were not directly impacted.*** This case will not impact virtual learning for our scholars. Your scholars will participate in virtual learning as scheduled for the remainder of the week.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends contacting your doctor if you believe you have been exposed to COVID-19 and develop a fever and other symptoms, such as coughing or difficulty breathing. More information can be found at the Lake County Health Department. In addition, please take social distancing seriously: avoid large crowds, stay at home, and maintain at least a six-foot distance from other people.

We will continue to provide updates as needed. You can access all of the school's related communication by visiting our website at [the-hiat.org](http://the-hiat.org) or contact myself at [clumbley@phalenacademies.org](mailto:clumbley@phalenacademies.org) or Principal Kemp at [jkemp@phalenacademies.org](mailto:jkemp@phalenacademies.org).

Thank you for your continued support. By working together, we will get through these challenging times. As you know, the well-being of our scholars, staff, and families is our number one priority.

Sincerely,

*Courtney Lumbley*

Regional Director, PLA