



The Clubhouse
1033 Old Henderson Road Columbus, Ohio 43220
(614) 516-3325

Sunday, October 17, 2021

*****Positive COVID Cases at the Clubhouse*****

To: Parents or guardians of children who attend the Junior Explorer Club:

We apologize for the vagueness of our texts and messages to families. Allow me to explain what has transpired over the last few days and today.

We recently became aware that a staff member on the Early Explorer side of the Clubhouse building tested positive for COVID-19 on Wednesday, October 13. While we are unable to identify the individual due to the confidential nature of the medical information, we can share that the Early Explorer staffer that tested positive was not in attendance October 13, 14 and 15th and will be out until a negative test is present.

For this reason we have required all staff to take a test. Even though we require masks and are vaccinated we felt out of an abundance of caution that testing **all our staff was best.**

As per the CDC and the recommended day to test, we could not have anyone tested until today Sunday, October 17. As staff was sending in their results, we were seeing more positive staff case counts of COVID on both sides of the building despite there being no illness or symptoms. Unfortunately, this has created a major staffing shortage as well as creating a potential increase in cases among our children. We simply will not have enough staff COVID-free despite working tirelessly to make our numbers work with those we have left. We must have a minimum number of bus drivers and not everyone on our staff is able to drive a bus.

Additionally, and in an effort to stop the spread, we feel confident that closing the Early Morning Drop off and After School Care program is the safest option to keep this from spreading, albeit an inconvenient option. We understand that this has created an extra burden on our families needing care, but the health and safety of our families and staff must take priority.

We are currently reaching out to families who may have had close contact with positive COVID case and letting them know they must be tested before they return especially if they were in close contact with a positive case. **If your child was NOT in close contact with a positive COVID test, we do NOT require them to be tested.**

Again, because test results are rolling in throughout the day and evening, we are doing our best to reach out to families while only having a few staffers able to work over the weekend. Please be patient as we are doing our best as fast as we can.

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Please feel free to call me with any questions or concerns at (614) 516-3325 or email our Clubhouse Director Kim at kim@jreplorerclub.com

Thank you for your support in these efforts and your patience, flexibility, and understanding as we work together to promote the health and well-being of our community.

Yours in adventures,

Michele Rapp

Michele Rapp, Chief Exploration Officer