

SCOTT COUNTY VIRGINIA SCHOOLS

“Every Child, Every Opportunity”

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DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT

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February 2, 2022

To Families and Staff:

I want to thank you for your support and dedication during another difficult year. As we monitored our Metrics this week, we concluded that we needed time to bring our numbers down. We closed schools on Tuesday (February 1) and Wednesday (February 2). In addition, on Thursday (February 3) and Friday (February 4), our schools will work virtually.

The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) released guidance that states: “Schools are no longer expected to conduct contact tracing on every individual case of COVID-19. However, contact tracing remains one component of the layered prevention strategies approach and should be continued in partnership with local health departments when there are outbreaks and sustained transmission within schools. Regardless of the level of contact tracing at a school for COVID-19, schools should notify parents and families of a case of COVID-19 when a member of the school community becomes known to them.”

This means that Scott County Schools will shift its focus to identifying outbreaks and not attempting to investigate every case of COVID-19.

Internal contact tracing will be minimal. When there is high transmission or a suspected outbreak, we will consult with VDH and trace as needed. Parents are asked to continue to notify the school of positive test results or exposure to a case outside of school. As a reminder, keep your child home if they exhibit any symptoms of illness.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'John I. Ferguson'.

John I. Ferguson
Superintendent
Scott County Public Schools