



NEWTON COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM  
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COVINGTON, GEORGIA 30015

SAMANTHA M. FUHREY  
*Superintendent*

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October 27, 2014

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students:

As you have seen on local, national, and international news this week, health authorities are working to control an outbreak of Ebola Virus Disease in several countries in West Africa. While there is no outbreak reported in Georgia, the Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) continues to provide school systems with updates, guidance, and recommendations for appropriate actions regarding this public health concern.

The Georgia Department of Public Health has requested assistance from school districts in Georgia to help make the public aware that any person(s) who travels to the Ebola-affected African countries, including Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Guinea, will be considered "at-risk." These individuals will be monitored by the Department of Public Health for 21 days in accordance with the Georgia Department of Public Health Protocol for active follow-up and monitoring of persons at-risk for Ebola Virus Disease because of travel history or exposure to EbolaVirus Disease.

The Newton County School System has an established protocol for identifying and reporting communicable diseases in our schools. We will continue to follow this protocol, as well as the Georgia Department of Public Health's Ebola Guidance for Schools which can be found at <http://dph.georgia.gov/guidance-schools-k-12>

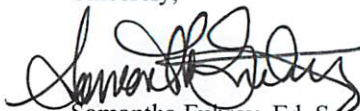
**If you, your child or any member of your family has been exposed to an individual(s) who has travelled to or from Ebola-affected countries, please notify your child's principal or school nurse immediately. Per board policy, before being allowed to return to school, your child(ren) will be required to have clearance from a medical provider stating that he/she is not ill.**

**Children who have travelled to or from Ebola-affected African countries will not be permitted to enroll in or return to the Newton County School System until they have a letter from Public Health stating that they have completed the 21-day mandatory monitoring period and have been medically cleared by a physician to enroll in school.**

Our goal is to keep students, faculty, and their families informed about how best to prevent the spread of Ebola. Hand washing is still the best, most effective method to protect from the spread of this infectious disease. Please review prevention tips to limit the spread of infection which can be found on the back of this letter.

If you have questions regarding Ebola or have questions regarding medical evaluation for Ebola, please call 1-866-PUB-HLTH.

Sincerely,

  
Samantha Fuhrey, Ed. S.  
Superintendent