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February 2, 2021

Dear Parents,

Berrien County Schools have partnered with the Berrien County Health Department since the onset of the pandemic. We worked closely to reopen schools, help mitigate the spread of the virus in schools and now we are partnering with them to coordinate school employee vaccinations. We have been working closely to plan educator vaccination clinics and have finalized the details. Our district's Educator Clinic, along with six other county districts, is scheduled for **Tuesday February 9th**. Due to scheduling times and availability, we will have a **half-day of school on Tuesday February 9th**. Over half of our staff have signed up to receive the vaccine and this will allow them to arrive at their appointments in a timely manner.

I apologize for this interruption however, supporting our staff during this time is important and crucial for the continuation of providing a safe and healthy environment. It is important to note that the landscape of vaccine availability is constantly changing so if there are any changes to this plan you will be notified immediately.

Tuesday February 9, 2021 will be a half-day of school for all students Pre K-12th grade.

Half Day Release Times:

Ottawa at 12:05pm

Moccasin at 12:10pm

Buchanan Middle School at 10:50am

Buchanan High School at 11:00am

Buchanan Community Schools has also learned that *a student that attends Buchanan Middle School* has tested positive for COVID-19. The student is in self-quarantine. Due to federal health privacy laws, information regarding the student's identity cannot be released. Please respect the student's privacy during this difficult time.

In working through the contact tracing process, the Health Department has confirmed that when we are tracing a person's contact that we look at anyone who has been within 6 feet of a confirmed, positive case for 15 minutes, even if that person is wearing a mask. Per the Berrien County Health Department, for the safety of all people, any student or staff member who falls into the above

category is required to be quarantined for 10 days. All families directly impacted by this news have been contacted by either Buchanan Community Schools staff or the county health department.

As always thank you for your patience and support. Please join me in sending healing thoughts to our student.

Educationally yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patricia Robinson', written in a cursive style.

Patricia Robinson