School Outbreak Letter

We are writing to share that <School> has met the criteria determined by the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) for a **School outbreak** of COVID-19 defined below:

School outbreak definition:

- **Five or more classrooms or cohorts with cases from separate households that meet the cohort outbreak definition that occurs within 14 days; *OR***
- **5% or more unrelated students/teachers/staff have confirmed COVID-19 within a 14 day period (minimum of 10 unrelated students/teachers/staff).**

Cohort outbreak definition:

- **Three or more laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 cases among students/teachers/staff in a specified group with onsets (or, if asymptomatic, collection dates) within a 14-day period, and who are epidemiologically linked in the school setting, but not household contacts.**
  https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/pages/school-resources

When a report of a confirmed case of COVID-19 is received,<School> administrators follow the **Maryland State Department of Education and MDH Interim K-12 School and Child Care COVID-19 Guidance for Persons Who Have Confirmed or Suspected COVID-19 (Isolation)** to isolate the appropriate individuals.

We collaborate with our FCPS Health Services Specialist and the Frederick County Health Department (FCHD) for reporting of positive cases. Upon review of positive cases in our school, we have identified that <X> cohorts have met the criteria for a cohort outbreak of COVID-19. This information was reported to MDH who has determined these cases to meet the criteria of a **School outbreak** of COVID-19.

We are sharing this information out of an abundance of caution and to be transparent with our valued <School> Community. The FCPS Health Specialist in collaboration with the FCHD COVID-19 School Liaisons will be reporting COVID-19 case information to MDH every day until the outbreak is determined to be cleared.

<School> will continue to provide in-person instruction. <School> staff follow health and safety protocols for reducing transmission of infectious illnesses among staff and students in schools. We are following guidance for ventilation, handwashing, and sanitizing and disinfecting all work spaces. The health and safety of our community is our highest priority.

<Principal Name>
Principal
<School>