MEDIA ADVISORY

WHAT: BRAXTON COUNTY SCHOOLS COVID-19 CASE CONFIRMATION

WHEN: Wednesday, October 14, 2020

CONTACT: Kathy Hypes, Superintendent

khypes@k12.wv.us

Today, working with the local health department, Braxton County Schools has confirmed one positive diagnosis and two probable cases at Braxton County High School. The case includes three students and no faculty or staff members. For the health and safety of all students and faculty, the school will begin distance learning on Thursday, October 15, 2020. All high school athletics and extracurricular activities will be suspended immediately. The school system will work closely with the Braxton County Health Department to conduct contact tracing over the next couple of days. We will evaluate and notify families of next steps by Sunday, October 18, 2020.

The confirmed case is believed to have resulted from a community activity and not from infection transmissions within the school. In accordance with privacy laws, information specific to these cases will not be released publicly, however, details are being made available to keep the community informed of the transmission of COVID-19 locally.

To prevent the spread of COVID-19, everyone is urged to follow best health practices as issued by the Governor's Executive Orders and outlined by the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR) and the West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) guidance. This includes wearing face coverings, and practicing social distancing, hand washing and cleaning protocols regularly.

Those who feel they need to be tested, please contact your primary care provider, your local hospital, or your local healthcare clinic. For more information about COVID-19 visit the DHHR at www.coronavirus.wv.gov or the CDC at www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.

For details about WVDE and DHHR guidance documents, visit https://wvde.us/COVID19.