



Bellefonte Area School District

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Inspiring and Preparing Today's Learners to Embrace Tomorrow's Challenges

May 10, 2021

Dear Bellefonte Area School District Parents, Families, Staff and Community:

Happy Monday! We were notified of only one new positive covid case in the district this weekend. Today's letter is shorter than most (hard to believe that I can be brief - lol). We still do not have any answers to all of the questions that were raised regarding the lifting of Governor Wolf's mandates on May 31st. We are awaiting clarification from PDE and the PA DoH about the change and the implications for schools. I will forward that information when I get it.

BASD Case Count Update

Since my letter on Friday, May 7, we received notification of 1 new covid case in our district. A student at the Middle School tested positive for the coronavirus this weekend. The student was in school while infectious, so the case does count according to PDE guidelines. Mrs. Garman worked on the contact tracing yesterday.

As a reminder, we still have several active cases that are on the PDE-mandated, 14 day rolling calendar. Most of these older cases will be off the calendar this week, but a few will be on the calendar at the respective schools into next week. We are still bound by the PDE mandates, Attestation Form, and PA DoH guidelines until May 31st. We must be vigilant to keep our students and staff safe and our schools open.

Building	Number of Cases on the 14 Day, Rolling Calendar as of 5/10
High School	3
Middle School	1
Bellefonte Elem.	2

Benner Elem.	0
Marion-Walker Elem.	0
Pleasant Gap Elem.	1

Other Reminders

Parents should continue to notify building principals if their child(ren) tests positive for the coronavirus as soon as possible, so that we can provide information for parents and we can stay on top of any contact tracing that may need to occur.

Of course, the PDE mandates, the DoH directives, increases in new cases or unforeseen issues can happen rapidly, and we may need to change our plans at a moment’s notice. If closures must occur, all other school-related activities and athletic events will be postponed, as well, during any closure. If any of this latest information changes or our status must change, we will let you know as soon as possible.

Again, we are urging everyone in our school community to continue to follow the guidelines and practices that can help lessen the spread of the virus. This includes washing hands frequently, wearing masks, social distancing and practicing personal responsibility. Now, as much as ever, we need to keep up the great work in order to keep our students, staff and community safe and healthy. Please use good judgement and practice safety at all times, so that we can return to normal and finish our last 17 days of school this year safely together.

I hope you and your family stays safe, healthy and well! I hope you have a magnificent Monday!

Sincerely,
Tammie Burnaford
Superintendent
Bellefonte Area School District