



Good evening!

We had an awesome day in our schools today! Thank you so much for your help and support with the TikTok challenge and our safety efforts. As a side note, I was at our high school this morning. As part of the 12 spirit days before the holidays, today was “anything but a backpack day” at the high school. This day was already planned. I was amazed and amused at the creativity of some of the students. Instead of backpacks, I saw cat carriers, coolers, a microwave, a barbecue grill, a drum, suitcases, a desk drawer, stock pots, etc. etc. In such challenging times, it is refreshing to see our students bring some lightheartedness to us. It brought a smile to our faces this morning.

This is just a quick update for positive covid cases since Monday. Since my email on Monday, we received confirmation of 14 new cases across the district. Of the 14 new cases, 10 are students and 4 are staff members. One of these staff members is a regular substitute who is not attributed to any one school, so that case is listed for Central Office. A summary of the new cases is shown in the chart below.

<b>Building</b>	<b>Total number of known, confirmed, new cases since 12/13</b>	<b>*Since 12/13, the number of new cases - students/staff that were physically present in the building while infectious</b>
High School	3 (all students)	2
Middle School	4 (3 students, 1 staff)	4
Bellefonte Elem.	5 (3 students, 2 staff)	5
Benner Elem.	0	0
Marion-Walker Elem.	0	0
Pleasant Gap Elem.	1 (student)	1
BeLA	0	0
Central Office Staff or Staff that may be	1 (staff member who is a substitute not	1

attributed to more than assigned to one  
1 school school)

Most, if not all, parents have been notified if their children were identified as a close contact to these 14 cases this week. At the time of this email, there were a total of 40 students quarantined for the 14 new cases that we received notification for since Monday. However, please note that some of these cases are a result of a family member, in some cases a sibling, testing positive first. Additionally, please note that some of the students quarantined are siblings of a student who tested positive.

Barring any breaking news, I'll send my next update letter on Monday morning, as usual. I hope you and your family have a wonderful weekend!

Sincerely,

Tammie Burnaford  
Superintendent  
Bellefonte Area SD