



Good afternoon!

We had another amazing week in the Bellefonte Area School District! The students are always awesome, but today's positive Covid case count update is remarkable. The Covid case counts are declining across the state and within our local zip codes, as I have mentioned. Since my email on Monday afternoon, we received notification of just **2** new Covid cases in the entire district. Both cases were at the high school. Let's hope that this significant downward trend continues! This update includes a description of the 2 new cases and important information about the phone outages within the district this week.

Covid Case Count Updates

- A staff member at the high school tested positive earlier in the week. The staff member may have been in school while infectious, but the timelines had already passed for contact tracing. No students were identified as close contacts, and no quarantines were needed.
- Today, we received notification that a high school student tested positive for COVID. At the time of this email, a determination regarding whether the student was in school while infectious was not made. Any necessary contact tracing was not completed. Parents will be notified if their students are identified as close contacts.

Although case counts do seem to be declining rather rapidly, we must remain vigilant for now. We can't let our guard down completely **yet**. We are urging parents to continue to work with us and support all personal safety measures. Thank you so very much for your support!

District Phone Issues This Week

Over the past week, our district phone system has been experiencing issues with connectivity. If you attempted to call any of our schools or the administrative offices and were not able to get through, we are very sorry. We understand your concerns and frustrations. Our Tech team has been working tirelessly with our provider to find a solution for the connectivity issues. Today, a meeting was held to discuss alternative solutions until the problem is resolved. Hopefully, these problems will not continue into next week. However, if the problems persist next week and you attempt to call the school and get a busy signal, please continue to call until you can get through. For more immediate assistance, please email the

building secretary, principal or the person you are trying to reach. We will be closely monitoring email when the phone system is experiencing difficulties. Thank you so much for your patience and understanding.

Barring any breaking news, I'll send my next update letter or a brief email on Monday, as usual. As always, thank you so very much for your continued support, patience and understanding through these very challenging times. I hope you have a wonderful weekend!

Tammie Burnaford
Superintendent
Bellefonte Area School District