



DANSVILLE, NY

September 6, 2022

Dear DCS Parents, Students and Employees,

We are excited to greet our students and welcome them back to school on Wednesday! This year is about getting back to basics at DCS. In each school and throughout the District, teachers, support staff and administrators are focusing on:

- ❖ High expectations for academic achievement; and
- ❖ Behavior and the developmental needs of children.

High academic expectations means that we support each student while we set the bar high and within reach. We expect students to work hard and achieve their full potential.

Focusing on behavior and the developmental needs of students means that we support students while we hold them accountable. It means students respect one another and the adults who work with them and it means we model the behaviors we expect to see in students.

We are all ready for the kids to return to normal schooling. As we begin, we ask parents to review the new illness protocols on page 2 of this letter. You will read that school nurses, working in close cooperation with parents, will exercise broader discretion to review illnesses and make common sense decisions about student attendance this year.

The last two years are over. It is time to re-establish our priorities and get back to the basics. We look forward to partnering with you throughout the year and working together in the best interests of students.

Sincerely,

Paul J. Alioto

Dansville Central School District will follow the guidance below to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in schools. This guidance is based upon the most recent NYSED, NYSDOH and CDC recommendations as of August 30, 2022.

1. Students and staff with symptoms of respiratory or gastrointestinal infections, such as cough, fever, sore throat, vomiting or diarrhea are requested to **stay home**. Students and staff who arrive with or develop symptoms at school or work **will be sent home** unless there is an alternate diagnosis (like asthma, chronic bronchitis, headaches or allergies). School nurses will resume their broad professional discretion to determine when individuals should or should not be present at school or work.
2. **Positive for COVID-19?** CDC highly recommends that students and staff who test positive for COVID-19 should isolate for **5 days at home and wear a mask days 6-10**.
  - a. Students and staff who test positive for COVID-19 may resume attending school or work after 5 days when they are fever free without fever reducing medicine for 24 hours and their symptoms are improving.
    - If you had no [symptoms](#)
      - Day 0 is the day you were tested (not the day you received your positive test result).
      - Day 1 is the first full day following the day you were tested.
    - If you had [symptoms](#)
      - Day 0 of isolation is the day of symptom onset, regardless of when you tested positive.
      - Day 1 is the first full day after the day your symptoms started.

**CDC highly recommends wearing a mask through day 10.**

3. CDC highly recommends that those exposed to COVID-19 (close contacts) wear a well-fitting mask for 10 days indoors and should test on or after day 5 or sooner if symptoms develop.
4. Quarantine is no longer recommended for people who are exposed to COVID-19.
5. School nurses will no longer conduct COVID-19 testing of students or staff with symptoms. Instead, students' parents and staff will be given free test kits to take home.
6. The District will no longer require a physician's clearance to return students and student-athletes who tested positive for COVID-19 to full participation in athletics and physical education. Such decisions are the responsibility of parents.