

January 21, 2021

Dear School Community Members,

Tonight we have an important announcement to make. Current in-person kindergarten students will have the opportunity to return to school 5 days/week beginning Monday, February 1. We will conduct a meeting for kindergarten parents on Monday, January 25 at 5:30PM live on Facebook. The event will be recorded for playback and posted for those who are unable to join us. In the meantime, we invite questions from kindergarten parents via email to DPS principal Dan Dixon (dixon@dansvillecsd.org) or their children’s teacher.

The big question shared by most everyone is, “Why just kindergarten?” There are a few reasons. We can move forward with kindergarten because class sizes are small enough (currently under 16/class in three kindergarten classrooms). We also have the space needed in those classrooms and we have new table-top barriers. In addition, the post-holiday spike in positives and quarantines is subsiding in our area. Livingston County and 14437 rates are dropping so we are more confident that we can continue to keep children and employees safe. Finally, the American Pediatric Association informs us that children under 10 years of age are the least at-risk for contracting, spreading or suffering from COVID-19.

The next question is then, “When can other grade levels return 5 days/week?” The primary school houses children under 10 and, given what we currently know about COVID-19, it is safest for those children to return 5 days/week. We are planning for the safe return of first and second graders in the weeks ahead. More planning is required to ensure safety on buses and in classrooms. We hope to share more news on this soon.

Quarantines and positives. As projected, we saw our quarantine and positive rates drop in all schools this week. The most recent data are provided in the table below.

| 1/21/21 | DPS | EBH ES | DHS | District | ASAP |
|------------------------------------|-----|--------|-----|----------|------|
| Quarantined Students | 5 | 4 | 10 | NA | 2 |
| Quarantined Employees | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| COVID-19 Positive Students | 0 | 0 | 3 | NA | 0 |
| COVID-19 Positive Employees | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |

Please know that we continue to work very closely with our local health department. Our nurses and principals meet together frequently each week. We monitor every quarantine and positive case.

You should also know that our cleaners are doing an amazing job with continuous disinfection in each building. We have a great group of cleaners and they make a cohesive team. I just can't say enough about them and their work other than, we are very fortunate to have them and we are so grateful for their work to keep us all safe. DCS cleaners are heroes.

Over the last 5 months we've learned that staying open to in-person learning is a fragile thing. We have learned that infections born outside of school can make their way inside of classrooms. So while we work to stay open and expand programming, we need everyone to continue to do their part to keep one-another safe and keep COVID-19 out of Dansville schools.

Sincerely,

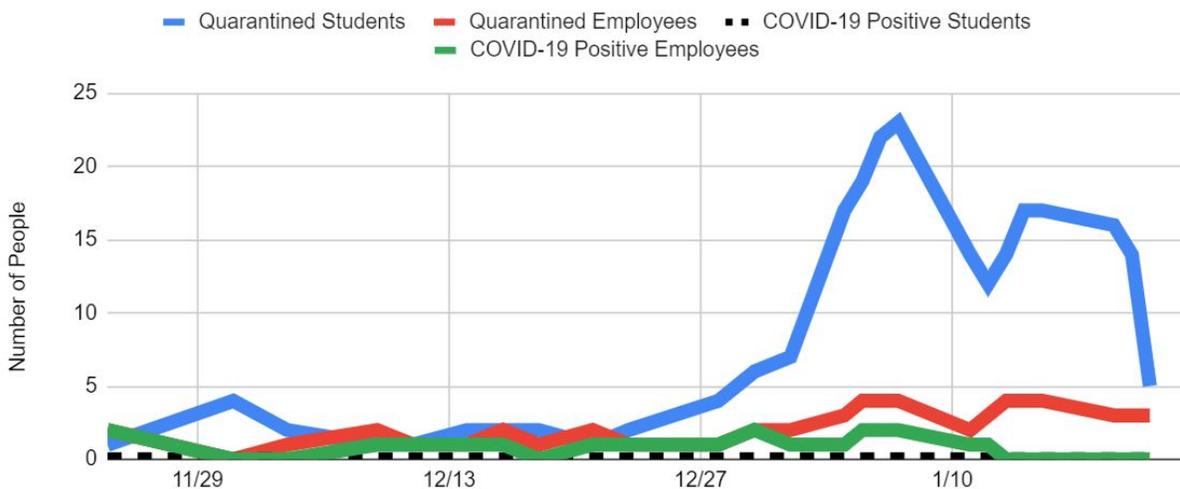


Dr. Paul J. Alioto
Superintendent

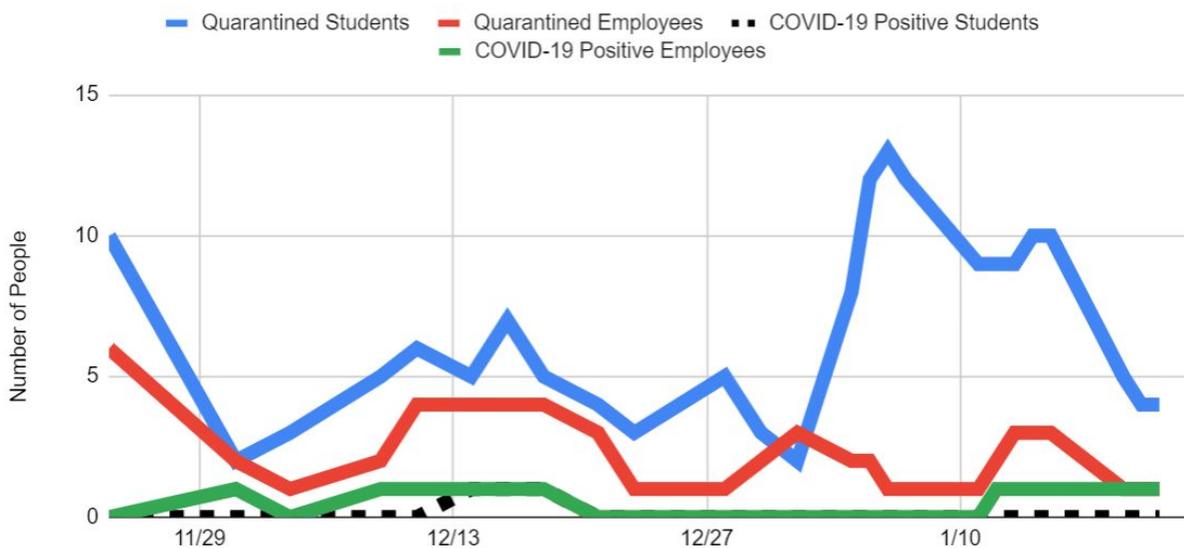
Recent Numbers of Positives and Quarantines at DCSD

The time plots below have been updated to provide a view of quarantines and positives in each school broken down by students and employees from 11/24/20 through 1/21/21.

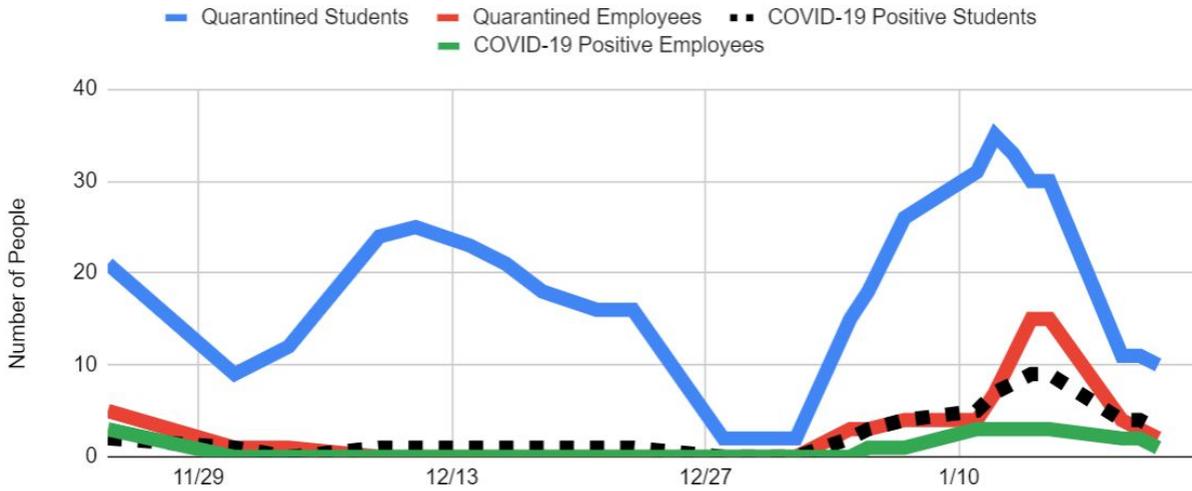
Dansville Primary School



EBH Elementary School



Dansville High School



ASAP

