

January 21, 2022

Dear Parents, Students and Employees,

The purpose of this letter is to provide an update on test availability, testing and current COVID-19 related conditions at DCSD.

Free Test Kits Available. The District will distribute free test kits to DCSD families on Saturday, January 22, from 9:00-11:00 AM in the Dansville Primary School drop off loop. DCS families with children in school may drive through the loop and receive 6 tests/family while supplies last. If your child tests positive at home, please notify your child's school nurse.

Testing. The District administered 502 tests between January 10 and January 20, 2022. 83 tests were positive giving us a 10-day positivity rate close to 17% of those tested. The District will continue our testing program. Our testing clinic remains open every weekday that school is in session from noon to 2:00 PM at GCC and from 9:00 to 11:00 AM on Saturdays and Sundays. If you or a member of your household has symptoms and wants to be tested at no cost, please register for a test by emailing rapidtest@dansvillecsd.org.

Current Numbers. As of today there were 249 active cases in Livingston County and 39 in our 14437 zip code area. The numbers being reported are significantly lower than those reported in early January but these numbers can be misleading for the following reasons:

1. NYSDOH changed the length of isolation from 10 days to 5 days. All those who test positive are now dropped from the totals on day 6 after testing positive.
2. Free home tests are being widely distributed and individuals are no longer required to report home positives to the DOH.
3. Local health departments are assisting with school contact tracing only and no longer tracing cases among the public.

Based upon all of the changes, it is very difficult to know if cases are increasing, decreasing or remaining constant in our area. However, because of our school testing program and great communication from parents who test at home, we have a good idea of school positivity rates and this indicator currently provides a consistent measure among the school population.

Positives and Quarantines. These numbers are based upon the new guidance on positives with a 5-day isolation period. As I stated earlier, these numbers can be misleading. Our positivity rate (17%

over the past 10 days) is a better indicator of the presence of COVID-19 in our schools and, perhaps, our community.

1/21/22	DPS	EBH ES	DHS	District	Totals
Quarantined Students	23	16	46	NA	85
Quarantined Employees	4	3	3	0	10
COVID-19 Positive Students	9	4	23	NA	36
COVID-19 Positive Employees	4	3	2	0	9

Our charts and a reminder of the new COVID-19 rules for students follows this letter.

From everything I have read, life is expected to gradually return to normal when the current surge recedes and that is very welcome news. We can all look forward to the retreat of COVID and a renewed sense of optimism and great hope for the future.

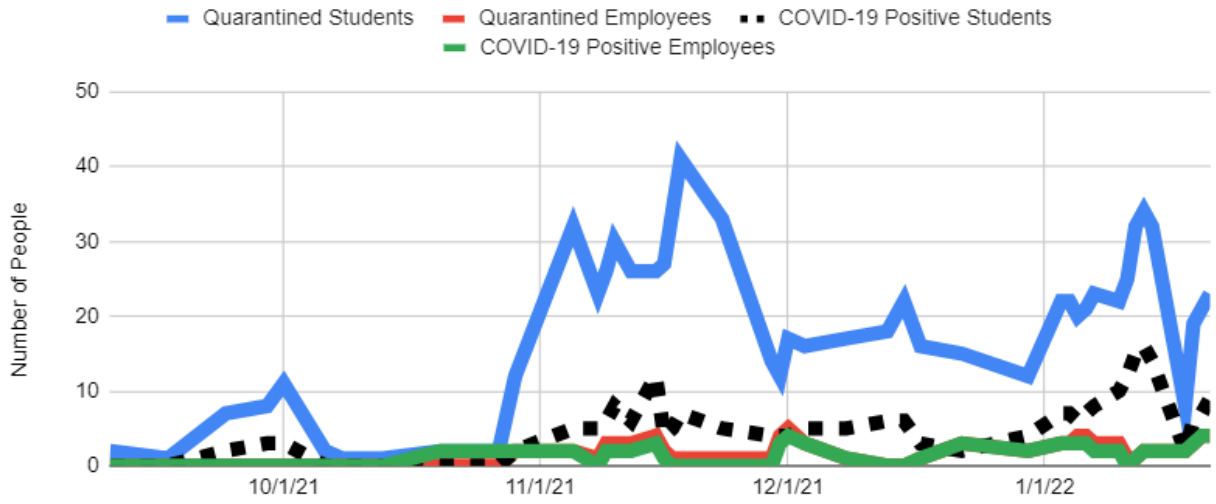
Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

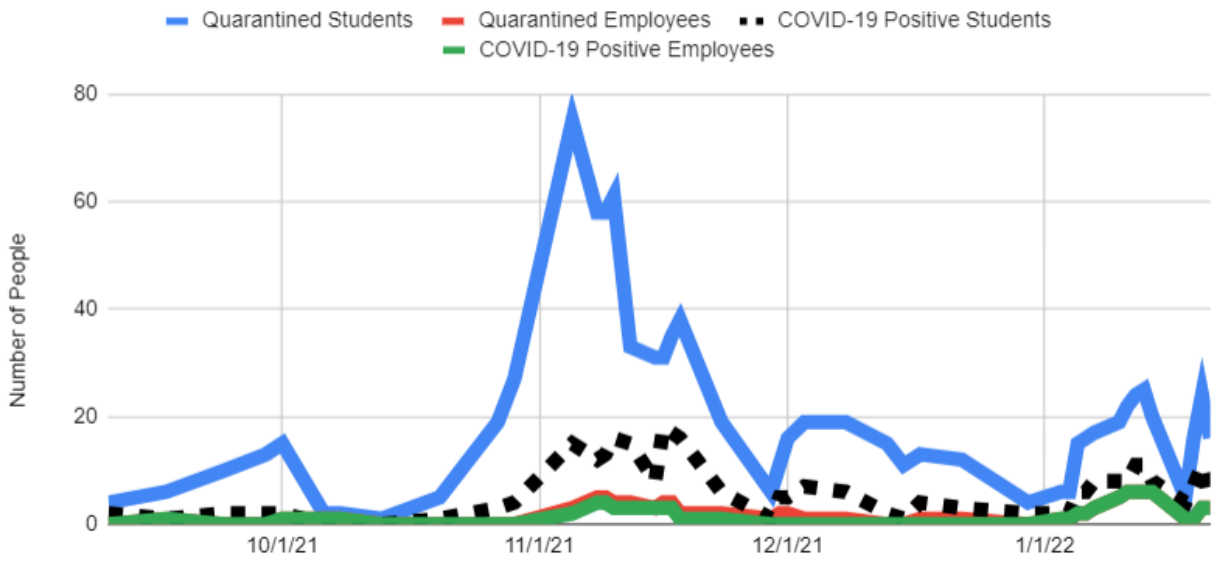


Paul J. Alioto

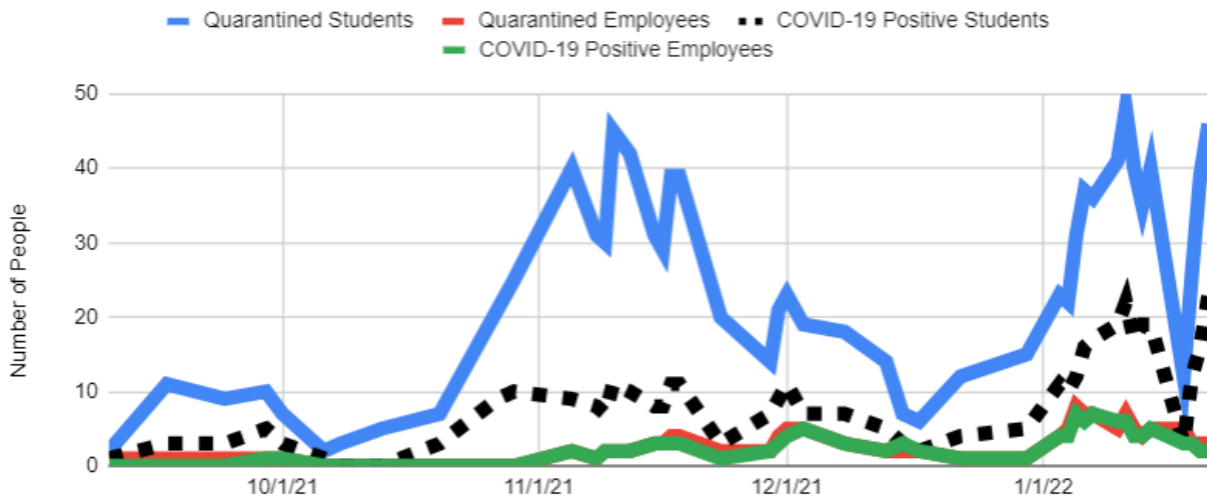
Dansville Primary School



EBH Elementary School



Dansville High School



Changes in COVID-19 protocols. NYSDOH and the governor's office have announced many changes to quarantine protocols over the past 2 weeks leading to confusion across the State. Those changes that affect DCS students and school families are detailed below.

- ❖ Any student who tests positive must isolate for 5 days. The test date is day zero (0). If symptoms persist or worsen after day 5, stay home. If asymptomatic after day 5, come to school.
- ❖ Vaccinated students who are close contacts of a positive **in the school environment** and have no symptoms may continue to come to school.
- ❖ Unvaccinated students who are close contacts of a positive **in the school environment** and have no symptoms may continue to come to school and Test to Stay for 5 days. If day 5 falls on a non-school day, they must test on the next school day.
- ❖ Vaccinated students who are close contacts of a positive **in the household** and have no symptoms may continue to come to school and Test to Stay for 5 days. If day 5 falls on a non-school day, they must test on the next school day.
- ❖ Unvaccinated students who are close contacts of a positive **in the household** must isolate for 5 days beyond the end of the positive household member's isolation. If asymptomatic after day 5, the student may return with a negative test at school on the return day.

Students who are in school or are returning to school under the conditions listed above must properly wear a well fitting mask, preferably a KN95. Students with symptoms must stay home and should get tested. All of this can be confusing so please call a school nurse if unsure.