

December 16, 2021

Dear Parents, Students, Employees and School Community Members,

We have had some challenges over the past week. Here are a few updates.

School threat last week. Our students and high school administrators rose to the occasion last week when a threat was discovered on a girls bathroom wall at DHS. Our students did what they are expected to do and reported it immediately. This helped us to quickly identify and narrow down students in the vicinity of the bathroom at the time of the incident which led us to a fast resolution of the matter.

These kinds of incidents can cause alarm and the speed of social media moves faster than any of us can respond to. This is why the District joins our partners in law enforcement cautioning against sharing general threats via social media and circulating those. Reporting a threat to the District and law enforcement is crucial so we can respond with our investigations and clear communications to the community. By contrast, sharing threats on social media leads to panic and panic is harmful to individuals' emotional well being.

Student attendance was down 21% district-wide and down 26% at DHS on Monday. Attendance returned to normal on Tuesday.

We are aware of continued threats of violence in and against schools across the nation that have been promoted by nefarious posts on the Tik Tok social media platform. These are non-specific threats and we will finish our week with an increased police presence, just as we began the week.

We take all threats very seriously. Please understand that we can't always disclose specifics of a case when working with law enforcement because such disclosures risk compromising an investigation. Please know that we will never permit students to come to school when we are aware that their physical safety might be at risk. Furthermore, we will continue to ensure that those who make threats are held accountable for their actions.

The best way to ensure safety at DCS is for adults in school and at home to have very close trusting relationships with children and teens. We need to be available to listen and help

young people feel comfortable talking to us and telling us about what they encounter every day. We need to contact a school official whenever we suspect physical or emotional harm.

At DCS, we pride ourselves in building and maintaining strong relationships with our students. Please contact me or another school official any time you have a safety concern.

Community COVID-19 testing over break. We plan to continue our local community testing program during the holiday break and we will share the days and hours of operation soon. If you or a member of your family or a friend has symptoms and needs to be tested, our testing clinic operates each school day M-F from noon to 2:00 PM at GCC (walk up to the gym entrance). We began weekend hours last Saturday and Sunday from 9:00 to 11:00 AM. We hope that this service will help to prevent the spread of the virus. Email rapidtest@dansvillecsd.org to register for a free test. Include your name and phone number.

COVID-19. We are seeing the number of positives and quarantines trend downwards at EBH and DHS. They ticked up at DPS. Overall, more individuals are coming off of the list than are being added. We want to keep moving in this direction but there are still very high numbers around us and we continue to identify new positives almost every day.

As of today, there were 292 active cases in Livingston County and 49 in the 14437 zip code area. Protecting the vulnerable and one another remains our priority at DCS. By taking safety precautions here we contribute to protecting loved ones at home and members of our community. Please see the updated table and chart at the end of this letter for additional perspective.

Despite all the challenges, great things continue to happen at DCS. On Tuesday night our School Board honored our Girl's LCAA Championship Cross Country Team and standouts Brianne Hurlburt and NYS qualifier Maggie Bacon. Our own Lynn Auble earned the title of LCAA Cross Country Coach of the Year. Add to that our girls and boys basketball, wrestling, swimming and track teams are off to a great start in winter athletics. All of our students have tremendous opportunities to pursue their academic and extracurricular interests at DCS and we encourage them to do so.

Sincerely,

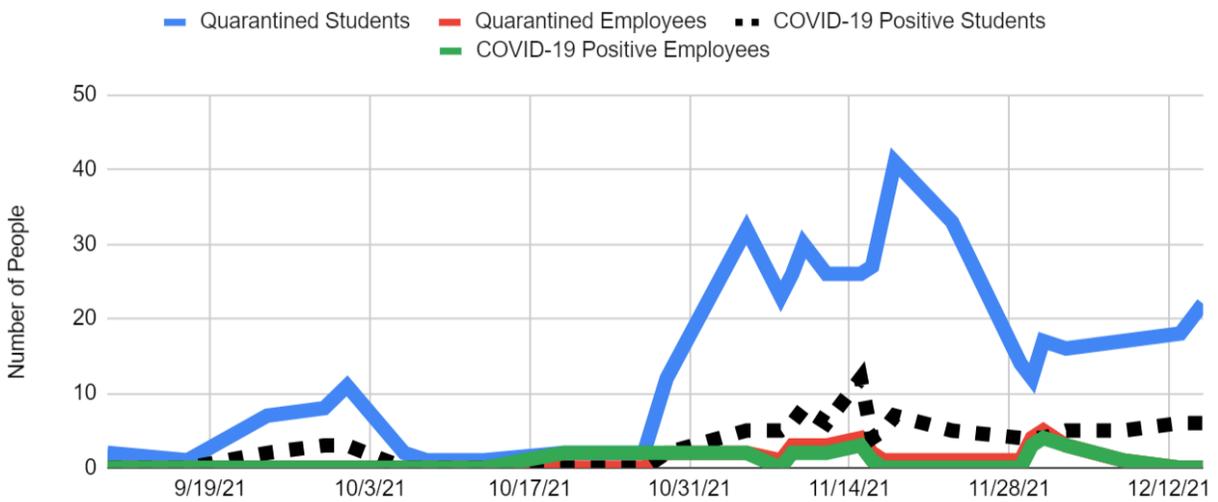


Paul J. Alioto

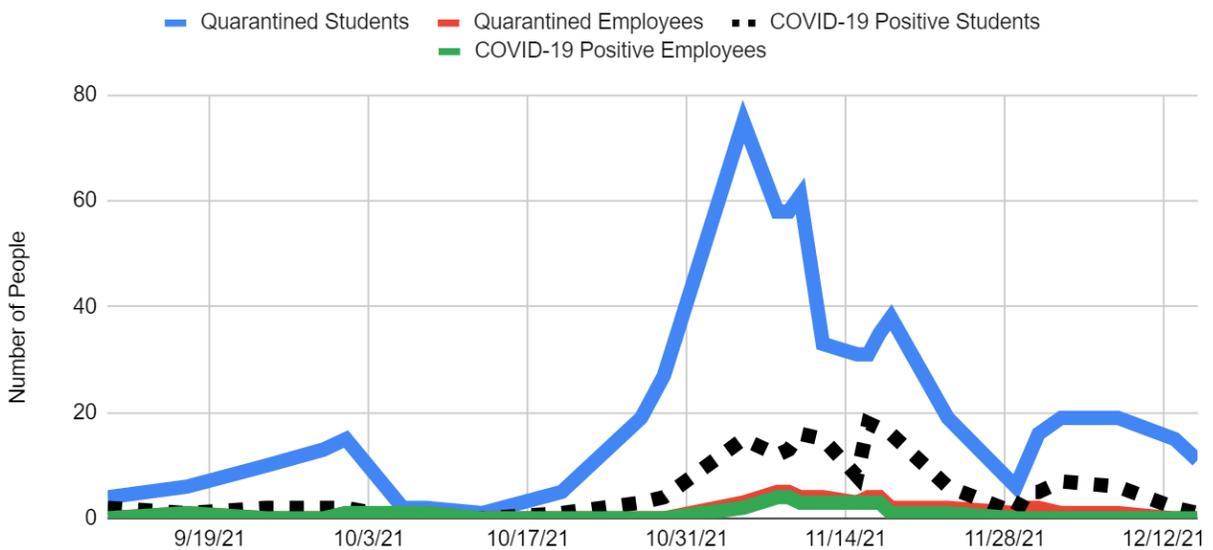
Quarantines and positives.

12/15/21	DPS	EBH ES	DHS	District	Totals
Quarantined Students	22	11	7	NA	40
Quarantined Employees	0	0	2	3	5
COVID-19 Positive Students	6	1	3	NA	10
COVID-19 Positive Employees	0	0	3	3	6

Dansville Primary School



EBH Elementary School



Dansville High School

