

April 23, 2021

Dear School Community Members,

DCS continued full time education this week as we worked to contain the modest spike in quarantines. Nurses and principals monitored our numbers everyday and worked closely with parents, doctors and LCDOH to ensure that our students and employees were safe. Erin Smith at DPS, Melinda Rittenhouse at EBH and Sarah Mehlenbacher at DHS have gone above and beyond and our school community owes a debt of gratitude for their extraordinary commitment, service and work ethic.

Parents should know that we can rapid test your child with symptoms right here in school. The procedure is not as invasive as the early tests and you can feel a greater peace of mind sooner by having your child tested at school. Please call your school nurse before bringing your child in for a test. Most of our testing is conducted curbside unless the child developed symptoms at school and has been brought to the health office. We will never test a child without parent permission.

Quarantines and positives. Numbers are leveling out at school and decreasing slightly locally and across the county this week. At the time of this writing, there were 10 active cases in the 14437 zip code area and 74 in Livingston County (about half of which are at SUNY Geneseo). About 15 EBH students will come off of the quarantine list this weekend and numbers are expected to drop further.

4/23/21	DPS	EBH ES	DHS	District
Quarantined Students	1	17	13	NA
Quarantined Employees	0	1	0	0
COVID-19 Positive Students	0	2	1	NA
COVID-19 Positive Employees	0	0	0	0

Widespread vaccinations are making a difference in our collective optimism about our future. Livingston County Department of Health is offering a vaccine clinic on Saturday, April 24 at the Conference Center, 1 Murray Hill Drive in Mount Morris from 8:30-10:30 AM



DANSVILLE, NY

and a Drive Through Clinic behind 2 Murray Hill Drive (LCDOH building) in Mount Morris on Tuesday, April 27 from 11 am-noon! **Both clinics are for those 18 and older!**

Visit www.livingstoncounty.us/vaccine to pre-register. Walk-ins are welcome at both clinics!

We continue to fight the good fight at DCS. We're doing our best to meet or exceed safety standards and ensuring that we remain open for business. We continue to rely on students and parents to make the difficult decision to stay home when symptomatic. We're reaching out everyday to students who might be feeling anxious. The year has been challenging to say the least but the spring break spike appears to be waning and the light at the end of the tunnel grows brighter day by day. Things are going in the right direction locally. Let's all do our part, stay safe and finish this.

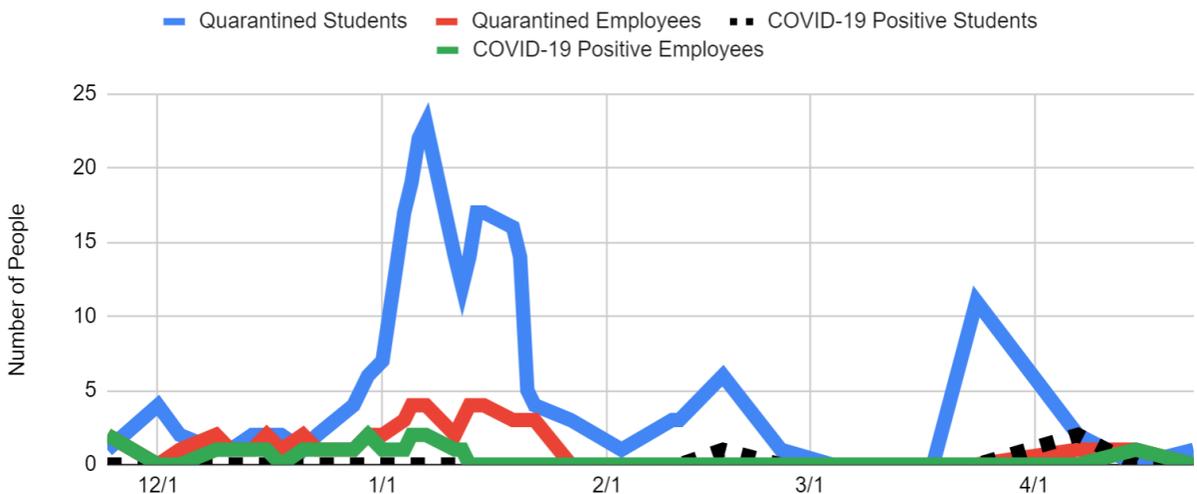
Sincerely,

Dr. Paul J. Alioto
Superintendent

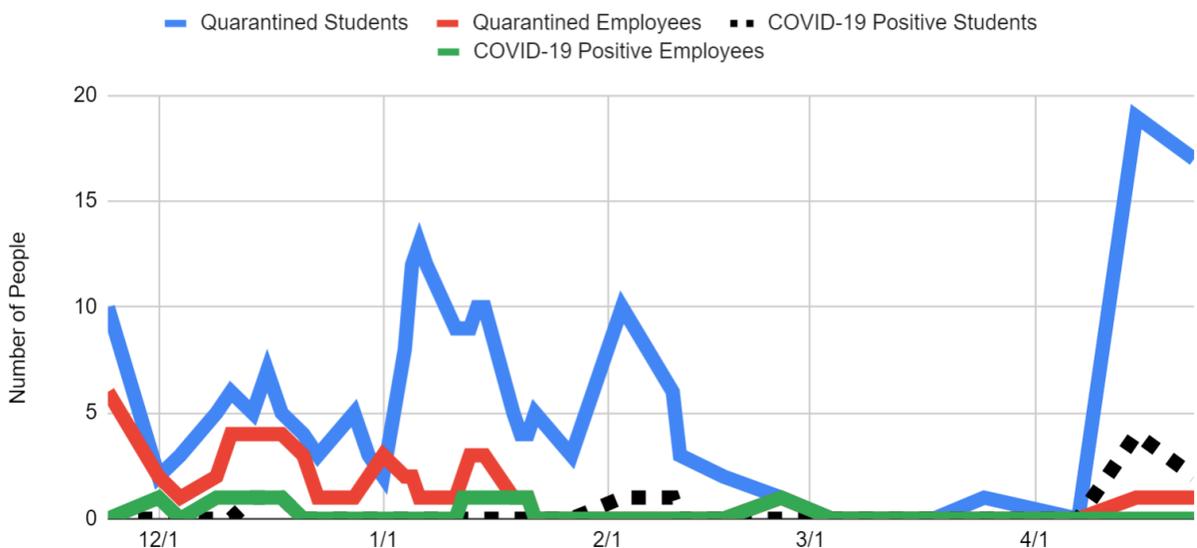
Recent Numbers of Positives and Quarantines at DCSD

The time plots below have been updated to provide a view of quarantines and positives in each school broken down by students and employees through 4/23/21. EBH numbers are expected to drop significantly over the weekend when our 6th grade class is released from quarantine.

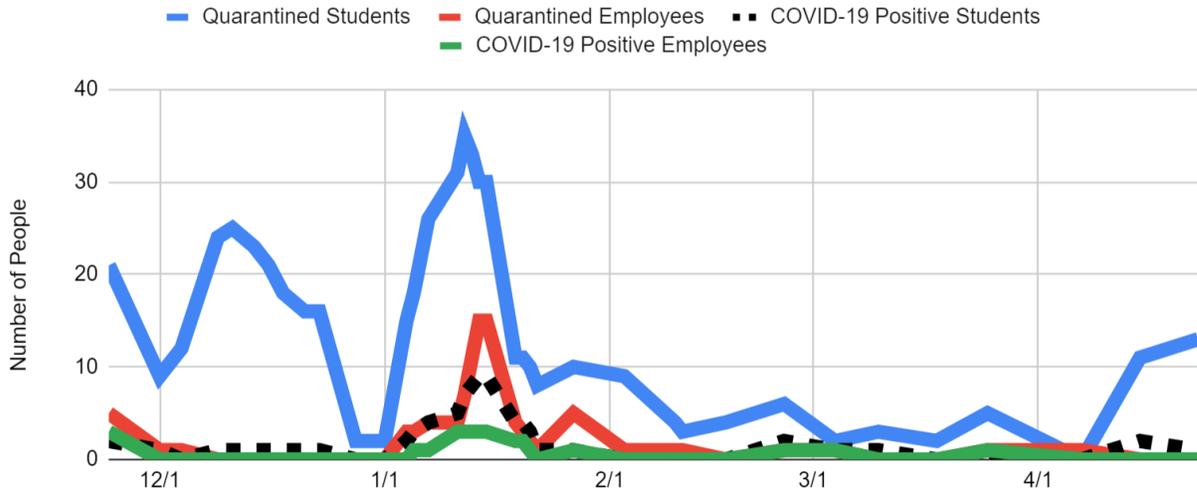
Dansville Primary School



EBH Elementary School



Dansville High School



Reminders from Last Week's Update

Updated Guidance from NYSDOH. A new 25 page document with updated guidance for schools was released last weekend. The rules are under review by school and public health officials to determine what they mean for current and future operations. The most obvious change is related to masks and gaiters. Masks must be at least two-ply and **gaiters are no longer permitted in schools.** Other changes are conditional based upon transmission rates but the manner in which those transmission rates are calculated differs across the state because of variables like population density, congregate settings and “practicable cohorting.”

The table on the next page is based upon new guidance from the NYSDOH in Albany (the source document for the table is from the NYS Parent Teacher Association). Updated NYSDOH rules are listed in the left column with our current plans for each item in the right column.

New Rules	DCSD Compliance
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2 ply masks are required. Gaiters are no longer acceptable. 2. Three feet of distancing between students may be allowed in some circumstances depending upon level of local and/or county transmission rates and level of cohorting. 3. Barriers are no longer required by NYSDOH where students are spaced less than 6 feet. 4. Face masks are still required at all times, except for meals. 5. Face masks must still be worn on school buses at all times. 6. Schools must solicit stakeholder feedback (including parent and family feedback) before making the decision to move from six feet of distancing to three feet of distancing for students. 7. Six feet must still be maintained between all adults. 8. Six feet must still be maintained in common areas where possible (gymnasiums, auditoriums, cafeterias, hallways). 9. Six feet must still be maintained when students cannot wear masks, such as when eating. 10. Distancing for choral and instrumental performing students has been reduced from 12 to six feet. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Effective 4/19 gaiters may not be worn in place of masks by students and employees. 2. DCSD will continue to work with LCDOH to evaluate transmission rates in consideration of congregate settings (SUNY Geneseo, nursing homes, corrections facilities, etc.). 3. DCSD will continue to use clear barriers as an added safety measure. No change. 4. No change. 5. No change. 6. The decision to return students full time was made under previous rules where <6 feet of distancing was permitted w/ barriers. Stakeholders were surveyed before returning students. 7. No change. 8. No change. 9. Furniture in cafeterias and other eating areas is being spread out and new spaces are being set up for student dining. 10. We will use six feet to distance our choral and instrumental music students.

DHS Graduation. Graduation has been set for 8:00 PM on Thursday, June 24 at Ralph Clements Field. In the event that we are rained out on June 24, we will move graduation to June 25 with June 26 as an additional backup. Another grand fireworks display is planned thanks to the support of the Dansville Alumni Association! The manner in which guests will attend has not yet been defined as the rules for guest capacity and distancing at indoor and outdoor venues is continually changing. More information will be provided as we get closer to June.