



**November 20, 2020**

Dear West York Families:

This communication is being sent to the entire West York Community.

**On Friday, November 20, 2020, the Administration was informed that the District has three new positive cases at the High School. At this time, the West York Area High School will remain open.** We will continue to monitor this case and others, and we will let everyone know should the situation warrant additional measures.

Districtwide Current COVID-19 Data as of Friday, November 20, 2020, @ 2:00 PM	
Positive Cases	In Quarantine
11	190
Please know that these numbers can fluctuate from day-to-day and sometimes hour-by-hour as cases move in and out of quarantine and positive status.	

The District has contacted those who may have been in close contact with the positive cases and has advised them to **quarantine**, per guidance from the Pennsylvania Department of Health. Please note that the impact on those needing to quarantine as a result of today's cases is less due to the fact that some of the positive cases are from those who have already been in quarantine.

### **An Important Note About What Quarantine Means**

The [Centers for Disease Control](#) (CDC) defines quarantine as:

Quarantine is used to keep someone *who might have been exposed to COVID-19* away from others. Quarantine helps prevent the spread of disease that can occur before a person knows they are sick or if they are infected with the virus without feeling symptoms. People in quarantine should stay home, separate themselves from others, monitor their health, and follow directions from their state or local health department.

**For those who are quarantined, please understand that this means:**

- No trips outside the home
- Separation from others, even in the home, to the extent possible
- No participation in sports or other activities - period.
- Following mitigation practices (masks, handwashing, etc) at all times
- Monitoring your health/health of children for symptoms as outlined below

**Possible COVID-19 Symptoms**

- **Fever of 100 or Higher**
- **Cough**
- **Shortness of Breath**
- **Difficulty Breathing**
- **New Loss of Taste or Smell**
- **Sore Throat**

- **Runny Nose/Congestion**
- **Chills**
- **Muscle Pains**
- **Nausea and/or Vomiting**
- **Headache**
- **Diarrhea**

The (PADOH) recommends using 15 consecutive minutes of exposure at a distance of six feet or less as an operational definition for “close contact.” However, there are circumstances when someone should be considered a close contact of a case after being within six feet for less than 15 consecutive minutes. Recent changes to the guidelines include looking at additional factors when assessing close contact such as being in extremely close proximity (e.g., face to face), or the infected person exhibiting symptoms.

Throughout the pandemic, our District has been in contact with the PADOH, and we developed our District Health and Safety Plan in compliance with the guidance provided. We will continue with our cleaning and disinfecting processes to ensure all impacted areas are properly sanitized.

I can't stress enough the importance of contacting your building school nurse immediately if you, your child(ren), or anyone in your household are showing any symptoms of COVID-19, or have been tested for the virus.

If you have any questions, please contact your child's school nurse. Contact information for school nurses can be found in the [family packet](#). All future communication regarding confirmed cases will be sent to the entire West York Community.

Your confidence in the District is appreciated, and we will continue to communicate updates on this and all COVID-19-related situations as appropriate.

Sincerely,

**Todd M. Davies**  
Superintendent of Schools