



# DANIEL BOONE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

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November 16, 2020

Dear Blazer Learning Community Parents/Guardians/Caregivers,

As per our [Blazer Learning Community Health & Safety Plan](#), this correspondence is to inform you that today we have learned that in addition to the previously articulated staff member at the Daniel Boone Area High School (DBAHS) that had tested positive for COVID-19 over this past weekend, there are now three (3) students that too, have tested positive for COVID-19. This makes a total of four (4) positive COVID-19 cases at the DBAHS. We are sending our sincere wishes for a full recovery to all of these members of our *Blazer Learning Community*. Please know that the health, safety, and well-being of our students, families, and staff remains our top priority. We are sharing the following facts and action steps and recommendations with you.

Facts related to this incident are as follows:

- We are confident that the COVID-19 positive staff member case (previously articulated) is unrelated to the three (3) student cases
- The three (3) COVID-19 positive students were NOT in school for in-person instruction last week (11-9-20 through 11-13-20)
- The three (3) COVID-19 positive students are NOT current participants in school sponsored athletics programs
- Contact tracing is occurring related to the three (3) student cases

The individual who has tested positive for COVID-19 will remain home until all of the following are true:

- At least 10 days since the onset of symptoms,
- At least 24 hours fever free without the use of fever-reducing medications,
- Improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath) and,
- Appropriately cleared by a medical professional

The Daniel Boone Area School District (DBASD) will continue to work with the PA Department of Health (PA DoH) and take the steps necessary to protect the health of our students and staff.

Since there have been four (4) cases of COVID-19 reported at the DBAHS in the past fourteen (14) days, the PA DoH recommends the following:

- **Close the DBAHS to in-person instruction starting Tuesday November 17, 2020 through the conclusion of the school day, Wednesday, November 25, 2020** – Fall Break is Thursday, November 26, 2020 through Monday December 1, 2020.
- ALL students will be instructed via our *Daniel Boone Digital Learning (DBDL) Platform*
- ALL DBAHS staff will work remotely from home utilizing our *DBDL Platform*
- DBAHS regular group A/B schedule will resume on Tuesday, December 1, 2020
- ALL DBAHS extra/co-curricular activities are canceled during the in-person closure and will not resume until Tuesday, December 1, 2020
- We will clean extensively, the entire school building
- District staff will direct close contacts to quarantine were appropriate

While this positive case does not mean your child will get COVID-19, it is still important for parents/guardians/caregivers to be aware of the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if your child becomes ill. Common symptoms of COVID-19 are fever and cough. Some individuals may also experience shortness of breath, runny nose, fatigue, sore throat, body aches, headache, chills, loss of taste / smell or gastrointestinal symptoms. Symptoms can vary by person and range from very mild symptoms to severe illness. More information on the symptoms of COVID-19 can be found at [PA Department of Health](#) or at [the Center of Disease Control and Prevention](#). Immediately report any symptoms requiring medical attention to the PAdoH (1-877-724-3258) and contact your health care provider. Be sure to inform the provider of you or your child's possible exposure to a person with COVID-19.

Please continue to watch for symptoms of COVID-19 over the next couple of weeks. If your child currently has symptoms or develops symptoms of COVID-19, please contact your child's healthcare provider. We encourage families to continue practicing proper hand hygiene by washing hands often with soap and water for at minimum twenty (20) seconds or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available, physical distancing when outside of the home, wearing face coverings, covering coughs and sneezes with elbow and **NOT** hands, cleaning and disinfecting high-touch areas, and checking health on a daily basis. A student, staff, or community member exhibiting any symptoms of illness, that student or staff should not come to school and community member should not enter district buildings. Students, staff and community are asked to continue to monitor their health. If your child(ren) has any of these symptoms, please contact your medical provider. Students who are asymptomatic or feeling well enough are still able to continue with classwork remotely through our Daniel Boone Digital Learning (DBDL) platform to avoid falling behind when they are unable to attend school in-person.

Our [Blazer Learning Community health & Safety Plan](#) is only effective if we all do our part to ensure we are making decisions to keep one another safe and healthy. **If students, staff, or community find themselves in a position where they may have been exposed to COVID-19, necessitating a test, the time to [notify your school nurse](#) or building administration is at the time the test is requested and NOT after results are acquired.** Be aware of any persons in your household who may be at higher risk of getting COVID-19, including individuals who are elderly, immunocompromised (e.g., someone who has cancer and is taking chemotherapy), or have another condition or illness such as diabetes or asthma. You or your child should practice physical distancing around those persons. If you are contacted by the PAdoH, please cooperate with monitoring and follow all instructions so that other people do not become sick.

The PAdoH, with the assistance of the DBASD, has notified those in need of a quarantine.

We know that this is concerning news. Please understand that we have prepared for this very scenario and all the appropriate steps are underway. We will continue to assess the situation in consultation with the PAdoH and will, if necessary, provide you with updates as we know more. Please continue to frequently access our district's [COVID-19](#) page for information and updates.

If you have any questions regarding the information in this correspondence, please contact us.



Brett A. Cooper Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools