



DANIEL BOONE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

501 Chestnut St.
Birdsboro, PA 19508
Tel. No. (610) 582-6107
FAX No. (610) 582-0066

December 2, 2020

Hello, Blazer Learning Community:

As per our [Blazer Learning Community health & Safety Plan](#), this correspondence is to inform you that, this evening, we learned a member of our Daniel Boone Area Middle School (DBAMS) staff has tested positive for COVID-19. We are keeping this staff member in our thoughts for a safe, healthy, and speedy recovery. 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, action steps and recommendations with you.

Facts related to this incident are as follows:

- COVID-19 positive staff member was wearing a face covering when last in the building,
- COVID-19 positive staff member was not in the building when they became symptomatic.

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, and
- Improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath).

Since there have been four (4) cases of COVID-19 reported at the DBAMS within the rolling fourteen (14) day period, the PADOH recommends the following:

- **Close the DBAMS to in-person instruction for 3 – 7 days, therefore the MS will be closed for 4 days, starting Thursday, December 3, 2020 through Sunday, December 6, 2020,**
- ALL students will be instructed via our *Daniel Boone Digital Learning (DBDL) Platform*,
- ALL DBAMS staff will work remotely from home utilizing our *DBDL Platform*,
- **DBAMS regular group A/B schedule will resume on Monday, December 7, 2020,**
- ALL DBAMS extra/co-curricular activities are canceled during the in-person closure and will not resume until Monday, December 7, 2020,
- We will extensively clean the entire school building,
- District staff will direct close contacts to quarantine were appropriate.

New Orders from the PA Department of Health (PADOH) regarding positive COVID-19 cases within a rolling fourteen (14) day period, while the county is the substantial category for COVID-19 transmission are [as follows](#)

- *DBAPC, DBAIC, DBAMS are medium size buildings.*
- *DBAHS is considered a large building.*

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

We continue to keep the health and safety our students and staff a top priority. We are cognizant that this information is not any of which we want to hear as we return from *Fall Break*, as well as onset of the winter months. It is strongly encouraged in continuing to participate in the following:

- Appropriate socially distance from others,
- Wear appropriate face covering(s) whenever possible,
- Frequent handwashing and/or sanitizing as well as other personal hygiene measures,
- Keep group gatherings to immediate household family members.

Additional cases; in particular, those that are specific to our in-person environment could compromise our *Blazer Learning Community Learning Options* that are in-person.

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.

Please understand that we have prepared for the varied scenarios that have occurred within our *Blazer Learning Community* this far, this 2020/2021 school year, and all the appropriate steps continue to be underway. We will continue to assess this 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.

Sincerely,



Brett A. Cooper Ed.D.
Superintendent of School