



DANIEL BOONE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

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

January 4, 2021

Hello, Blazer Learning Community:

As per our [Blazer Learning Community health & Safety Plan](#), this correspondence is to inform you that, today, we learned that eleven (11) members of the Daniel Boone Area School District (DBASD) tested positive for COVID-19 over the Winter Break. We are keeping these individuals 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 breakdowns, facts, action steps and recommendations with you.

COVID-19 positive cases by building:

- Six (6) learners at the Daniel Boone Area High School (DBAHS),
- Two (2) staff members at the Daniel Boone Area High School (DBAHS),
- One (1) learner at the Daniel Boone Area Middle School (DBAMS),
- One (1) learner at the Daniel Boone Area Intermediate Center (DBAIC),
- One (1) staff member at the Daniel Boone Area Intermediate Center (DBAIC).

Facts related to these incidents are as follows:

- COVID-19 positive learners, at the HS, have been full time Virtual students since the start of the 2020 – 2021 school year,
- COVID-19 positive staff members, at the HS, were wearing face coverings when last in the building,
- One (1) COVID-19 positive staff member, at the HS, was not in the building when they became symptomatic or during the infectious period,
- COVID-19 positive learner, at the MS, has been a full time Virtual student since the start of the 2020 – 2021 school year,
- COVID-19 positive learner, at the IC, was wearing a face covering when last in the building,
- COVID-19 positive learner, at the IC, was not in the building when they became symptomatic or during the infectious period,
- COVID-19 positive staff member, at the IC, was wearing a face covering when last in the building,
- COVID-19 positive staff member, at the IC, was not in the building when they became symptomatic or during the infectious period.

The individuals who have 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).

The PADOH recommends the following:

- All buildings were closed due to *Winter Break*,

- We have extensively cleaned all buildings,
- District staff has contacted all close contacts to quarantine where appropriate.

Please reference the [DBASD COVID-19 Dashboard](#) for updated COVID-19 information throughout the DBASD.

New Orders from the PA Department of Health (PA DoH) 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 (PA DoH) and take the steps necessary to protect the health of our students and staff.

We continue to keep the health and safety of 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 *Winter Break*. It is strongly encouraged to continue to participate in the following:

- Appropriate social 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. 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 PA DoH (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 PA DoH, 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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Brett A. Cooper".

Brett A. Cooper Ed.D.
Superintendent of School