



# NORTH EAST SCHOOL DISTRICT

50 EAST DIVISION STREET • NORTH EAST, PENNSYLVANIA 16428  
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Dr. Michele Spurgeon Hartzell, Superintendent  
Mrs. Shelley Allen, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Jeffrey Fox, Business Manager

January 15, 2021

Good Afternoon North East Family,

Please be advised that the District Office is now maintaining a COVID-19 dashboard on the nesd1.org website that parents can access for realtime information on the number of active on-campus and active off-campus cases. An on-campus case is one in which an individual was in school during his or her infectious period. An off-campus case is one in which the individual was not in school during his or her infectious period. Additionally, a weekly notification will be sent to update families through email and text, as well as posted online, that lists cases that occurred during that week. The dashboard and weekly notification will take the place of the day-to-day notifications.

During the week of January 10<sup>th</sup>, we received notification of the following cases:

- One district staff member tested positive for COVID-19. That staff member had not been on campus since mid-December.
- One district staff member was probable for COVID-19. That staff member was on campus on Monday, January 11<sup>th</sup>.
- One Middle School student tested positive for COVID-19. That student had not been on campus since mid-December.
- One Davis Elementary student tested positive for COVID-19. That student had not been on campus since mid-December.
- One non-district support professional tested positive for COVID-19. That individual was on campus on Wednesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>.

All close contacts in these cases have been notified by the district.

The health and safety of our students and staff is our number one priority. We ask if you believe you have been in contact with anyone who may have symptoms of COVID-19 or you experience one or more symptoms from Group A or two or more symptoms from Group B below, to please stay home and contact your health care provider.

GROUP A	GROUP B
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cough</li> <li>• Shortness of breath</li> <li>• Difficulty breathing</li> <li>• New olfactory disorder</li> <li>• New taste disorder</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fever (<math>\geq 100.4</math> F oral or equivalent)</li> <li>• Chills</li> <li>• Rigors</li> <li>• Myalgia</li> <li>• Headache</li> <li>• Sore throat</li> <li>• Nausea or vomiting</li> <li>• Diarrhea</li> <li>• Fatigue</li> <li>• Congestion or runny nose</li> </ul>

We now have a form on-line for families to fill out regarding COVID-19. If your child or a family member is being tested for COVID-19, or your child or family member is asked to quarantine, we are asking you to complete the brief COVID-19 form found on the district website at nesd1.org, select the “gold” tab labeled COVID-19 Form. Additional information on when to keep students home, why we quarantine students and staff, information related to the Pennsylvania travel order, and school closures is included in the NESD School Reopening video which can be found at this link: <https://youtu.be/etdx2KTgU-k>. If you have any COVID questions, please feel free to contact Dr. Karns at [skarns@nesd1.org](mailto:skarns@nesd1.org), Mrs. Lawrence at [klawrence@nesd1.org](mailto:klawrence@nesd1.org), or myself at [mhartzell@nesd1.org](mailto:mhartzell@nesd1.org).

We will continue to monitor local and state guidelines. Please remember that if your child or a family member is being tested for COVID-19, your child must stay home until the results have been verified. Families are also required to follow all state travel guidelines.

Sincerely,

Dr. Michele S. Hartzell, Superintendent  
Dr. Steven Karns, Co-Principal/Co-Pandemic Coordinator  
Mrs. Kiersten Lawrence, Assistant Pandemic Coordinator

**Mission:** *“to challenge, empower, and engage all students to develop and achieve personal and career aspirations, to pursue lifelong learning, and to be responsible and accountable citizens in a dynamic world.”*