



# EASTERN LANCASTER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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December 3, 2020

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Community Members-at-Large,

This letter provides an update regarding the positive COVID-19 caseload at the District. Currently nine members of the High School student body and two adults are positive for COVID-19. Additionally, at New Holland Elementary School, there are two positive COVID-19 cases among the student body and one adult positive for COVID-19. No other buildings have active cases at this time. Since the cases occurred before or during the Thanksgiving Day break, quarantining of other learners has been minimal to date and the cases do not factor into a “learning-shift” decision, per the Governor’s updated Order. In other words, the Thanksgiving Day Holiday provided a buffer which minimizes the impact of the active cases counted toward the shifting decision matrix. Therefore, all schools remain in-person learning at this time.

Bear in mind the latest restrictions promulgated by the Governor place the District in a much higher level of accountability for ensuring proper mask wearing of learners and adults. It also makes the former Department of Health recommendations for when to “shift to all remote learning” essentially an “Order”, but with more local flexibility for returning to in-person learning. The latest information can be found on the Pennsylvania Department of Education website at: [Governor Wolf's Public School Attestation Order](#), [Updated Order of the Secretary of PA Department of Health Requiring Universal Face Coverings](#), [Recommendations for PreK- School Following Identification of a Case\(s\) of COVID-19](#). Failure by the District to adhere to these changes automatically forces a shift to all remote learning as well as risks the potential shutdown of all extra-curriculars and athletics.

We ask that as a community you continue to be vigilant, do everything you can to wear masks, and social distance whenever possible. It requires a community effort in order to keep our schools functioning in-person.

We will continue to update you as the conditions evolve.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Robert M. Hollister, Ed.D.

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