

## Northern Middle School COVID Closure 9.17-22.21

The middle school is experiencing a high number of positive cases of COVID-19 associated close contacts, and classroom outbreaks. Within the current 14-day window, the middle school has 18 confirmed cases with a couple more potential cases under investigation today and pending confirmation.

The middle school will move to remote learning starting tomorrow, Friday, September 17, and continue through next Wednesday, September 22, unless we notify you that conditions have not adequately improved by then. Waiting to come back until at least next Thursday allows the symptoms of the majority of recently infected students to show up. This time period keeps those students that are pre-symptomatic but infected from coming to school and further spreading the virus.

All middle school sports and extracurricular activities starting this evening and continuing within the closure time frame are canceled or postponed.

The District is taking action in accordance with the guidelines of the PA Department of Health (DOH) and the protocols established in the District's Health and Safety Plan, including contact with the DOH and the county health department, contact tracing, quarantining individuals that were in close contact, and appropriate cleaning and disinfecting of affected areas.

Students are reminded to serve out their quarantines regardless of the closure period and to stay home and consult your doctor if you develop COVID symptoms. We wish a full and hasty recovery to our staff and students that are sick and thank you for your patience and understanding as we navigate the challenges of the pandemic together.