



# BELLE VERNON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

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Dr. Michele Lee Dowell  
Superintendent  
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April 26, 2021

Dear Parent/Guardians,

We were notified this weekend of more Covid positive cases at the Belle Vernon Area High School and Marion Elementary School. Due to having 7 cases at the high school, the building will be closed for in-person instruction through Wednesday. Students will participate remotely and may return to in-person instruction on Thursday April 29, 2021. We were also informed this morning of 2 cases at Marion Elementary School. All of the above cases have caused us to contact trace and if your child was considered a close contact, you would have been informed. Below is a chart of current cases in our district. The only building on remote instruction at this time is the Belle Vernon Area High School. All other buildings are operating in-person at this time.

I know that everyone wants things to go back to normal and to keep our students in school. I want nothing more, but we are mandated by the state to follow certain closure rules when we are in the "substantial" range for community transmissions

Here is a chart of the information for easier reading:

Building	# of Positive Cases	# of Positive Cases in 14-day Rolling Period
BVAHS	3	7
BVAMS	0	0
MES	2	2
RES	0	2

If your child is displaying any symptoms or has been in close contact with a positive COVID person, please do not send them to school and have them follow the recommendations for quarantining and notify your child's building nurse or principal. It is extremely important that we all work together for the safety of our students and staff. We are seeing an increase in cases in our district.

The signs and symptoms of COVID 19 are listed below. If you or your child are concerned about an exposure or are exhibiting symptoms of COVID 19, please contact your primary care physician for further guidance. For more information on COVID 19, visit the PA Department of Health's website at: [www.health.pa.gov](http://www.health.pa.gov).

What are the signs and symptoms of COVID 19? Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus and may range from mild to severe.

Symptoms include:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose

- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

We are following the recommendations from the PA Department of Health and the PA Department of Education, as the health and wellness of our students and our community are always our highest priority. Please stay safe.

Sincerely,

Dr. Michele Dowell  
Superintendent of Schools