



# BELLE VERNON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

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**Dr. Michele Lee Dowell**

**Superintendent**

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April 29, 2021

Dear Parent/Guardians,

We were notified of another positive COVID case at Rostraver Elementary School at 3:00 today. The administration and school nurses are conducting the contact tracing and if your child was a positive contact, you will be notified by the school. Since this is Rostraver's fourth positive case, they will be closed on Friday, April 30, 2021 for in-person instruction and should attend all classes remotely. Students at Rostraver Elementary School can return to in-person instruction on Monday, May 3, 2021. We were also notified of another case at the Belle Vernon Area High School. Since the high school had been closed, a new 14-day rolling period began and we only have one positive case in the current 14-day period.

Earlier this week, we were also notified by the PA Department of Health that when a building is closed due to positive cases, all extra-curricular activities and sporting activities must be stopped as well. This was new information to our district but something that we must follow moving forward. I know that everyone is extremely frustrated with this situation but we have no choice but to follow the regulations given to us by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

Cases for today and current 14-day rolling period:

Building	# of Positive Cases	# of Positive Cases in 14-day Rolling Period
BVAHS	1	1
BVAMS	0	0
MES	0	4
RES	2	4

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