



Pewaukee School District

COVID-19 Update September 21, 2020

Weekly Update Data: Each week of school during the pandemic, the Pewaukee School District will publish a status update of active cases and those in quarantine due to exposure or presentation of COVID-19 like symptoms. This information is provided in an effort to be transparent with the level of virus activity within the school district. Please note that information relative to any individual's health is very sensitive and private so we are taking steps to secure the anonymity of individuals. Student numbers will be published at a school level and the district as a whole. In any school in which the number is <5 we will post an * to avoid the likelihood of exposing the identity of an individual. We will provide a summary number for the district as a whole. For staff, because they are fewer in number, we will only post that information for the district as a whole.

Data related to the spread of the virus in our region can be reviewed using the **Waukesha County COVID-19 Dashboard** at <https://www.waukeshacounty.gov/COVID19>

Phase Status: *Current level = Phase 2: 4K - 5th grade (hybrid / 4 days full attendance, 1 day virtual) Phase 1: 6-12th grade (hybrid / 50% attendance)*

Monday was the first day with our elementary school students in Phase 2 of our [Stay Safe to Stay Open model](#) in which all students attend four days a week and are all virtual on Wednesdays and by all accounts things went well. This change was made because we had maintained consistently low disease burden numbers through last week Thursday before finalizing the decision and because our internal incidents of infections were at zero and our number of quarantined staff and students remained low. Our middle and high school students remain in Phase 1 because that age group of children have consistently experienced more than 6 times the number of infections of our younger students making the risk of virus spread greater. **We will not consider a change to a less restrictive phase (2 or 3) for 6-12 graders prior to October 5th. This does not mean we are intending a change on that date, simply to confirm we will not consider any change prior to that day.**

Bus Loads in Phase 2: You may notice on some routes that the buses can be pretty full and even result in 2 kids per seat on our fullest routes. This is unavoidable on some routes as we move to Phase 2 and 3 with full attendance even with the split elementary routes. Students must wear masks, we ask students to sit with siblings whenever possible, windows will be open weather permitting for greater ventilation, and it is helpful that most routes have kids riding for less than 15 minutes which falls below the benchmark for quarantine (<6 feet, >15 minutes), and we continue to clean buses between routes and complete full sanitation for all buses every night. Please note that we will not be adding staffing to buses to manage students, the driver will



do their best and will report misbehavior or non-compliance with protocols to the appropriate school administration for follow up if needed.

Increase in infections: Over the weekend we have seen an **increase in virus activity** in Waukesha County and our school system. We have **had our first positive cases** and are working with Waukesha County investigators and through our own nursing staff to complete contact tracing to contact families and implement quarantines. In addition we have experienced an increase in the number of students in quarantine due to exposure or symptoms. **Parents, you will always be contacted directly if your student(s) may have been exposed to a confirmed positive case.** I want to thank the families we worked with over the weekend who have been tremendously helpful in our efforts to identify anyone who may have been exposed and implement quarantine measures. This kind of cooperation is critical in our efforts to limit the exposure of other students and staff. As we have advised consistently, **it is important for families to have a plan in the event of a quarantine or closure.** These situations typically occur with very little notice and should be anticipated.

Quarantine Note: You can access specific information on quarantine procedures including a decision making tree and graphics from the county health department on our website [here](#). Please note that the County has reported, and we have experienced with our own families, that **area physicians are often giving incorrect information on quarantine and isolation.** We follow the guidelines which have been provided to us by the health department which are based on guidance from the CDC and these need to be followed regardless of what an individual physician may advise. Please note that **if your child has been exposed to an individual who is known to be positive for COVID-19, you must keep your child home and in quarantine for 14 days.** It does not matter if your child has a negative test or is not symptomatic, they still must complete a 14-day quarantine before being allowed to return to school. Please report all contacts to your school so we can implement the proper procedures and provide support for your child and your family.

Mask Mandate: Although the Governor's mask mandate order is set to expire next week, please note that will not change anything in regards to the school district's requirement for wearing face coverings by all staff, students and visitors at school. **Wearing face coverings is a critical virus mitigation protocol and will remain as a requirement indefinitely.** I want to thank our parents and students for the great job you have been doing complying with this requirement.

Terms used in data table:

Active Cases: This term refers to individuals with a confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis who are not considered recovered. This would apply to any individual who has not completed the required 10-day isolation period which must also include 24-hours symptom free.



Quarantine: This term refers to individuals who are placed in quarantine due to a known exposure to an individual confirmed to have COVID-19 or due to the presentation of symptoms consistent with the virus.

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School	Student Active Cases (Confirmed COVID-19 / Non-recovered)	Students Quarantined (Symptomatic of or Exposed to COVID-19 / 10-14-day Quarantine)
PLE	*	*
Horizon	*	5
Asa Clark MS	*	14
PHS	*	28
Total	3	47
District (Staff data x district level only to protect privacy of individuals)	Staff Active Cases (Confirmed COVID-19 / Non-recovered)	Staff Quarantined (Symptomatic of or Exposed to COVID-19 / 14-day Quarantine)
PSD	0	3
* Indicates less than 5 cases to protect the privacy of individuals infected or in quarantine		