

Dear WCASD Families,

This morning the [Chester County Health Department \(CCHD\) released new guidance](#) for school districts regarding contact tracing. Effective immediately, school districts in Chester County are no longer authorized to conduct contact tracing on the CCHD's behalf.

To comply with this guidance, the WCASD is stopping contract tracing procedures moving forward. This means that we will no longer be notifying individuals or students in classrooms if they are a close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. Additionally, families will no longer receive communication of positive cases within our schools each day. **The CCHD strongly encourages individuals who test positive to independently notify their close contacts. If a parent keeps their child home because of being a close contact, please contact the school nurse and/or attendance office to have the absence coded as nurse exclusions.**

**The District's current protocols regarding individuals who test positive for COVID-19 or are presumed positive for COVID-19 based on their symptoms have not changed.** These individuals will still need to complete the isolation period per CCHD and CDC guidance prior to returning to school. To keep our families informed of cases in the District, we will now update our COVID-19 Dashboard on both Tuesday and Friday afternoons.

The health and safety of our students and staff remain our top priority, and we ask that staff and families work directly with your school nurse to continue reporting positive COVID-19 test results. As we adjust to new guidance yet again and maintain our commitment to in-person education, it is critical that we continue our mitigation measures including daily home health screenings, social distancing and proper mask wearing. Our commitment to in-person education and the health of all those in the WCASD will continue to form the foundation of our decisions as we move forward with the second half of this school year.

Finally, please remember that anyone who does not feel well should stay home and get tested. The CCHD has provided a new [Quarantine Guidance Tool](#), [Updated Isolation Guidance](#) and an [interactive testing site map](#) for links to local testing providers including resources for at-home testing.

I know that changes in guidelines may raise questions. If you have questions, please contact me, your child's principal or school nurse.

Thank you for your continued support,

Dr. Sokolowski