



Wyandotte Public Schools

"Educate – Inspire - Empower"

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October 27, 2020

Dear Parents and Staff,

As you know, we have been working closely with the Wayne County Health Department to monitor local COVID-19 cases and positivity rates, as well as safety strategies in place in our schools. According to the County, both the number of COVID-19 cases and the positivity rate in Wayne County are increasing significantly.

While we have not seen any new cases in Wyandotte Public Schools, we are watching the community cases closely and actively gathering guidance from the County. At the same time, school safety is a community effort. We know that in-person classes are the best way for our students to learn, and benefit students' social, emotional and academic growth, and we are doing all we can to keep our schools open for all those who choose the face-to-face option. However, we can only control the mitigation practices and safety measures in place in our schools. We rely on our entire school community to work together to prevent the spread.

You might ask why with such high numbers, the schools have not shut down? The answer is the positive cases are happening outside of the schools. I encourage you to continue to have frequent conversations with your children about COVID-19 safety. We know it's hard, but when possible, stay away from large gatherings and other indoor activities that increase the spread of COVID-19.

We are working closely with the County to determine next steps when positive cases arise. As a clarifying point, a school will close when two students test positive, from a direct transmission from the school. We had one elementary school that had 2 cases, yet they both came from outside the school so the school did not close. This was upon the recommendation of the Health Department. Should the state return to Phase 3, we are required to pause face-to-face learning and shift exclusively to remote learning. We have a plan in place and are confident in our ability to switch to remote learning, should the need arise.

In the meantime, we will remain vigilant as we continue to utilize the safety practices that we know are working in our schools. Thank you for your continued partnership and patience during this time.

Sincerely,

Catherine M. Cost, Ed.D.
Superintendent