

# Delaware Valley School District

**DR. JOHN J. BELL, SUPERINTENDENT**

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December 1, 2020

Dear DV Community:

I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving. **Contrary to the many rumors swirling around, we plan on continuing our 5 days per week in-person/Zoom instructional model.** There is no plan to move to hybrid or online learning at this time. Our goal is to stick with our 5 days per week plan and, hopefully, make it to winter recess without any interruptions.

We are proud to offer four options: in-person, Zoom, cyber and home schooling. We want to do everything in our power to keep all four options available to our students. We know that every family has a different comfort level in regards to this virus and we respect each family's choice(s).

While Pike County has moved from the moderate level of COVID-19 transmission to the substantial level as defined by the PA Department of Health, Delaware Valley has not seen a surge in positive cases within our schools. We continue to disinfect nightly and conduct contact tracing as soon as we are notified of a positive case. This has allowed us to avoid any short-term closures. Kudos to our staff for making this happen.

What might make us switch to hybrid or online learning? No one really knows what this winter will be like in terms of positive cases or how fast a vaccine might reach the general population. Therefore, we have to plan for all likely scenarios. One scenario requiring us to switch would be if many students tested positive causing hundreds to quarantine. Another scenario would be if so many staff members had to quarantine that we didn't have enough staff available to work. The question each family has to ask is: **Are we prepared if the schools have to switch to hybrid or online?** If you don't have a plan in place already, you should start putting one in place no different than having a plan for a snow day or early dismissal.

In summary, we plan on sticking with our 5 days per week instructional model but ask that you have a back-up plan ready in case we need to switch sometime this winter.

All the best,

*John J. Bell*

Dr. John J. Bell  
Superintendent