

Delaware Valley School District

Schools will reopen on Monday, January 3 – Changes as of 1/2/22 at 7 p.m. in red

The Omicron variant is causing havoc because it spreads much more rapidly than some of the other variants forcing a dramatic increase in the number of people needing to be quarantined. Here are the highlights of our plan to reopen schools after winter recess:

- **All schools will reopen on Monday, January 3 as scheduled.**
- **Bus service will only be provided to primary and elementary school students as well as small buses for K-12 special programs. Middle and high school students can attend in-person if they can arrange their own transportation until further notice. Otherwise, MS & HS students will learn via Zoom.**
- **Zoom is going to be available to all who want it for the month of January.** By providing Zoom, it gives families options during this peak spread time period, will allow for more distancing in the classrooms and will allow us to reconfigure bus routes to accommodate for a shortage of drivers.

If you want your children to Zoom on the elementary level and they don't have their Chromebooks, you can contact the classroom teacher via Schoology. Secondary students who didn't take their Chromebooks home can come get them out of their lockers starting as early as 7:00 a.m. on Monday. Our original plan was to have all elementary students take their Chromebooks home for winter recess as a precautionary measure but the snow day on December 22 foiled that plan.

- **Quarantine rules have changed.** The Pennsylvania Department of Health has endorsed the CDC recommendations to reduce the quarantine period under certain circumstances. Please see link for more information:
<https://www.dvdsd.org/cms/lib/PA01001022/Centricity/Domain/1/Daily%20Symptom%20Monitoring%20Sheet%2012%2030%2021.pdf>
- **Parents, your help is needed more than ever** to check your kids every morning and keep them home if they have any symptoms. Since Omicron spreads so quickly, we are asking that students stay home at the first sign of any symptoms. Being overly cautious during this peak period could prevent many people from being quarantined so thank you in advance for your caution.
- **We will be looking at ways to reduce the number of people entering schools** by encouraging meetings to take place by telephone, Zoom etc. We will also be looking to move some January events to later in the year after we get past this period of spiking cases.

We really don't know what to expect this month in terms of cases so we will monitor our staff and student case counts daily and make adjustments as needed. We might see certain schools have to go virtual or certain buses canceled due to staffing issues. We will communicate any changes as quickly as possible.

Sincerely,
John J. Bell
John J. Bell, Ed.D.
Superintendent