



MERCER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT



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September 20, 2021

Dear Mercer Families,

Mercer Schools is committed to providing all of our families with accurate and timely information. Previously, each time we were notified of a confirmed positive COVID-19 case a notification was sent out to the Mercer community using the ALERT System (Trumpia). We recognize the need for transparency but also realize that we are inundating you with both text messages and emails. Therefore, beginning today, September 20, 2021, the Mercer Area School District will notify the Mercer community of active positive COVID cases via a district dashboard located on the Mercer School District website, www.mercer.k12.pa.us.

The new dashboard will allow anyone with access to our website the ability to view our active COVID-19 cases by week, but updated daily. The new dashboard will provide transparency within each school building, as well as district totals and quarantine data. The decision to provide COVID specific data on a COVID dashboard allows for additional data while allowing the ALERT System (Trumpia) to remain focused on its original intent, parent notification of school delays, cancellations, or emergencies (student evacuations).

Please know that by moving the medium in which COVID information is being provided has not modified the procedures and protocols associated with cleaning, handwashing, screening, and contact tracing. The only change will be in the form of where families will access the information.

Thank you for your understanding as the district continues to adapt to the changing landscape associated with COVID-19. If you have specific questions regarding the dashboard or COVID-19, please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's principal or school nurse for assistance.

Sincerely,

Ronald R. Rowe, Jr., Ed.D.
Superintendent
Mercer Area School District