



Conestoga Valley School District
2110 Horseshoe Road
Lancaster, PA 17601



Sept. 11, 2020

Dear CV Community –

Between Wednesday night (9/9) and today, we have had two more confirmed cases, and one probable case, of individuals at the High School testing positive for COVID-19. As the Pandemic Team, we looked at the data surrounding the three total confirmed cases, and the one probable case. We conducted a very thorough contact tracing and found that the cases originated at a gathering outside of the school.

We were very fortunate that the spread was not worse. We are fortunate because we have dedicated individuals in the High School conducting effective contact tracing. Due to the ability of the High School staff to gather pertinent information in real time, the familiarity with the individuals involved, and the occurrence of the Labor Day holiday, we were able to effectively identify and quarantine individuals who ran the risk of contracting the virus.

However, the PA Department of Health (DOH) and PA Department of Education (PDE) guidelines for building closure recommend that a school in a county in the “Moderate” range with two to four positive cases closes for a period of 5 to 7 days. We discussed the recommendations within the Pandemic Team and consulted the medical experts at Penn Medicine/LGH. Due to the number of cases, and to maintain compliance with PDE, DOH and LGH recommendations, and with the approval of the CV School Board, **we are closing the High School to students effective Saturday, September 12 through Monday, September 21.** Teachers will continue to report to the High School to provide virtual instruction to the students. Those students who were notified to quarantine prior to the school closing will continue to complete their quarantine timeframe. During the closure, the rest of the student body should continue to practice social distancing, wash hands frequently, and wear a mask or face covering where appropriate.

Again, this closure is not a result of a schedule, of someone not wearing a face covering, or of someone not maintaining social distance; this closure is the result of individual actions in the community brought into the school. Please note: During the closure, academic delivery will change to an online model; the building will go through a thorough cleaning; and all extra-curricular activities will be suspended and rescheduled as appropriate.

Please do not become complacent in your diligence toward this virus as we must continue to follow the basic mitigation guidelines:

- Wash your hands frequently;
- Wear a mask or face covering;
- Maintain social distancing; and
- Avoid large gatherings, especially those where participants are not social distancing or wearing face coverings.

Here at CV, we will continue to do everything possible to keep our students, faculty and staff as safe as possible. We cannot monitor or control the actions outside of our buildings. We need your help as parents, students, community members, friends and colleagues, to make sure we are doing everything in our power outside-of-school to stay safe, so we can enjoy all that in-person school provides. Let's all do our part and help prevent future closings. We are all in this together! We are #CVStrong!

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Zuilkoski". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "Z".

Dr. Dave Zuilkoski, Superintendent