Updated New York State Guidance
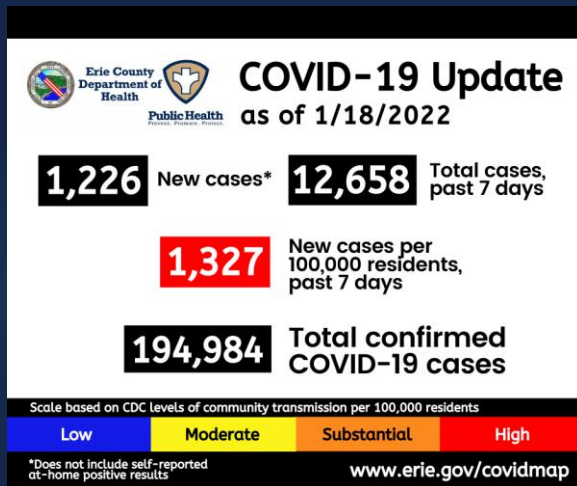
COVID-19 ISOLATION & QUARANTINE IN PK-12 SCHOOLS
JANUARY 20, 2022 – 11 AM

The information presented here is current as of today's date unless otherwise noted. All data are provisional. For the latest information, reference links within the presentation or visit www.erie.gov/covid19
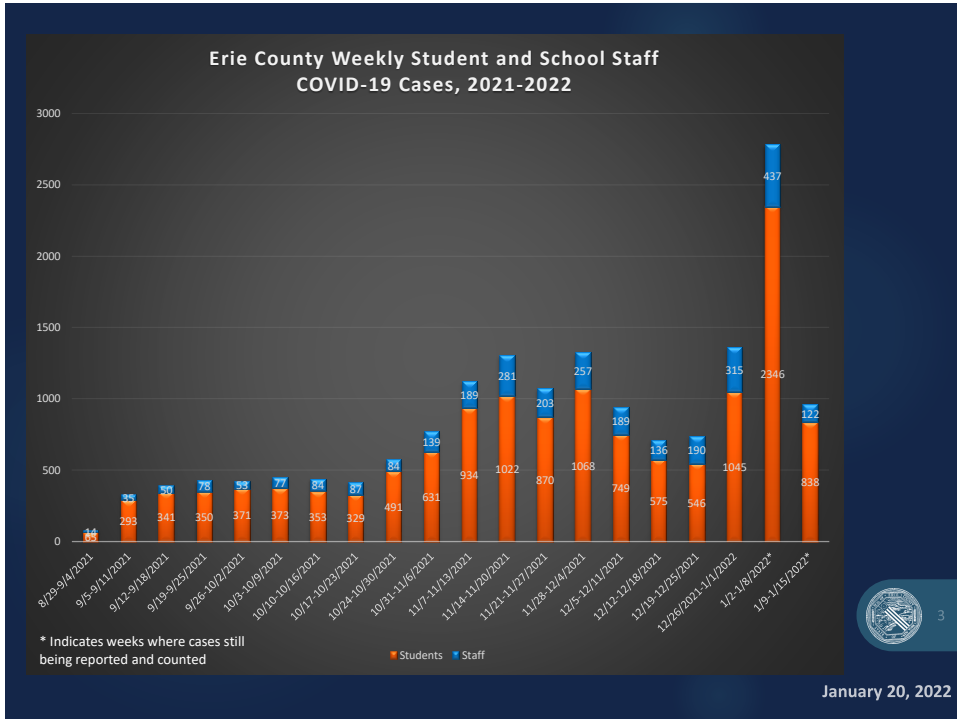
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January 20, 2022

Erie County COVID-19 Case Data Summary, Jan. 18

Erie County Department of Health
Public Health Prevent. Promote. Protect.

COVID-19 Update as of 1/18/2022

1,226 New cases*   **12,658** Total cases, past 7 days

1,327 New cases per 100,000 residents, past 7 days

194,984 Total confirmed COVID-19 cases

Scale based on CDC levels of community transmission per 100,000 residents

| Low | Moderate | Substantial | High |

*Does not include self-reported at-home positive results

www.erie.gov/covidmap

- This data does not include at-home positive COVID-19 test results
- Positivity: 17.4%
- 5.6% of Erie County residents have had a lab-confirmed positive COVID-19 test in the past 4 weeks.
- COVID-19 numbers are declining

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Erie County Weekly Student and School Staff COVID-19 Cases, 2021-2022

Contact Tracing in Schools

Question: Are schools required to do contact tracing when students or staff test positive for, develop symptoms of, or are exposed to COVID-19?

Answer: **No.**

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What NYSDOH Means

▸ Schools should continue to maintain a safe environment for students and staff.

▸ Maintaining a safe environment includes ensuring that members of the school community who test positive for, develop symptoms of, or are exposed to COVID-19 have access to the information they need to take appropriate steps to protect themselves and others.

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What NYSDOH Means (continued)

▸ When a confirmed COVID-19 case is identified, schools should ensure that the student/staff does not report to school.

▸ When a student/staff is exposed and is identified as a close contact in school, the school should notify the parents/guardians or staff member.

▸ Exposed individuals should be referred to ECDOH quarantine information.

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Possible Approaches

1. You can continue to
   ▸ provide ECDOH with close contacts.
   ▸ ECDOH will perform all quarantine follow-up, including providing close contacts with the information needed to take appropriate steps to protect themselves and others.

2. You can choose to
   ▸ perform routine contact tracing tasks in-house.
   ▸ work with ECDOH to perform contact tracing with just higher-risk exposure areas (e.g., lunch rooms and buses) and provide follow-up for classroom exposures in-house.

3. You can choose to
   ▸ perform all contact tracing tasks in-house.

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Requirements Still in Effect

▸ Masking
▸ Distancing
▸ Surveillance testing
▸ Reporting of positive cases to NY School COVID-19 Report Card
▸ Reporting of all tests conducted at school to NY School COVID-19 Report Card, ECLRS and ECDOH

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Resources ECDOH Can Provide

▶ Surveillance testing
  ▶ If you haven't started, start. If you have a surveillance testing program, work to increase consented numbers.
▶ Proximal testing
▶ Limited Laboratory License (LSL) through our third party vendor
  ▶ An LSL is required if you are doing at-school diagnostic testing of symptomatic students as well. If you do not have a LSL and want to perform testing of any kind, please reach out to us and we will get you set up.
▶ Test to Stay resources (updated ECDOH TTS protocols pending)
  ▶ LSL, test supplies, reimbursement for tests conducted.
  ▶ Schools can continue their current plans for TTS.

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Resources ECDOH Can Provide (continued)

▶ Notification of identified positive COVID-19 cases through ECDOH contact tracing

▶ Confirmation of positive COVID-19 cases

▶ Contact tracing of all identified close contacts

▶ Assistance with clusters of cases or suspected outbreaks

▶ Isolation and quarantine affirmations at Erie.gov/iq

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Contact Us

▶ COVID-19 Information Line:
(716) 858-2929 - General Info, Testing Appointments, Vaccine Appointments

▶ School Team:
(716) 858-6525 – School Cases, Case Investigations

▶ Screening & Proximate Testing:
(716) 858-8289 – Janine Benkelman

▶ Test to Stay, Test Kits & PPE, Policy Questions:
(716) 858-2664 – Lauren Nicholas

▶ New York State Contact for Policy Questions:
SchoolQuestionsCOVID@health.ny.gov

▶ New York State Contact for Non-Public Schools - Test Distribution, Delivery and Quantity
schooltestdistribution@exec.ny.gov

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Questions and Answers

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