



Danville Area School District

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November 13, 2020

Dear Danville Families,

The 2020-2021 school year opened under the threat and uncertainty of COVID-19. At DASD our families and students have been at the heart of our decisions regarding creating varied instructional models; limiting the number of students in the building; contact tracing and quarantining students; and keeping schools in-person or going virtual for a short period of time. Fortunately, DASD has been able to provide the majority of our students with the opportunity for in-person learning throughout the first marking period. We have been faced with many challenges during this time. Due to the patience of our families, the care and dedication of our staff, and the support of the School Board, we have been able to keep schools open.

Last week we provided families and staff the opportunity to complete a survey regarding the next few weeks of school in relation to the holiday breaks. Nearly 40% of our families responded that they will be either visiting or hosting guests during the holidays. The number of active COVID cases in our area is at the highest rate ever and has been climbing daily during this month. Looking at the data from the surveys, PDE, and the Department of Health (DOH), the administrative team has made the difficult decision to move from an in-person model to a virtual learning model over the next week.

On Wednesday, November 10th, we had to send home nearly 40 students from two primary classrooms and one Head Start classroom due to two positive cases. Also, the decision was made to move Danville Middle School to an every other day model starting Monday, November 16th. As you can see, regardless of our mitigation efforts, masks, and social distancing, COVID-19 is invading the school through community spread and parents and other adults testing positive.

Beginning Thursday, November 19th (half day AM), all of our DASD students will move to attending school remotely through virtual learning. Students who are currently using the Bridge model or the Ironmen Cyber Academy/eLearning model will continue to access their present systems. All other students who are currently attending our traditional/in-person learning model will then be instructed virtually through Google Meet/Google Classroom.

The schedule will be as follows:

November 19, 20, 23, 24: Virtual Learning
November 25 – 27: Thanksgiving Break (**NO SCHOOL**)
November 30: Act 80 day (**NO SCHOOL**)
December 1, 2, 3, 4: Virtual Learning
December 7 – 22:
DPS & LV Traditional Students Return to School Daily (*tentatively*)
DMS & DHS Traditional Students return to every other day hybrid model (*tentatively*)
December 23 – January 1: Holiday Break (**NO SCHOOL**)
January 4 – 8: Virtual Learning

Food Service will continue to provide breakfast and lunch meals for pick up. We will be providing specifics through the DASD global connect system early next week.

We understand the impact that this has on families, but we also realize the great responsibility we have to do our best to create a safe environment for our children and staff. This plan is designed to allow a period of time around each holiday break utilizing virtual learning. Our intent is to use this time to monitor the spread of cases and potential cases to protect the health and well-being of our community. We have planned in-person instructional days during December because we understand the importance of children being in school. Please know that this plan for in-person days is our hope. We will be monitoring current data in Pennsylvania, Montour and Northumberland Counties, and our local communities and will make adjustments as warranted.

This decision is not one that has been made lightly. Teachers and administrators have learned a great deal about virtual learning over the past 45 days. DASD teachers are the heart and soul of our district and are committed to your children and their success. With this plan they will have the opportunity to teach from their classrooms during all virtual sessions, providing students some level of normalcy during this difficult time.

In an effort to help you with the virtual learning process we are including building specific information with a calendar for your reference. We will be providing an opportunity for parents to ask questions through a Zoom Question and Answer session on Monday, November 23rd at 5:30 PM. This session will also be broadcast live on YouTube. Information on accessing this event will be posted on the main DASD webpage.

This action is to put the health and safety of the DASD community first and to do everything possible to slow the spread of the coronavirus. In public education, planning is paramount to providing the very best instruction for our students. At this time we are planning for an unpredictable future to the best of our abilities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ricki M. Boyle".

Ricki M. Boyle, Ph.D.
Superintendent

DASD: Schedule for DPS & LV

NOVEMBER 2020

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
Traditional School Day 16	Traditional School Day 17	Traditional School Day 18	½ DAY: AM ONLY ALL STUDENTS VIRTUAL 19	ALL STUDENTS VIRTUAL 20
ALL STUDENTS VIRTUAL 23	ALL STUDENTS VIRTUAL 24	ALL SCHOOLS CLOSED 25	ALL SCHOOLS CLOSED 26	ALL SCHOOLS CLOSED 27
ACT 80 DAY: ALL SCHOOLS CLOSED 30				

DECEMBER 2020

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	ALL STUDENTS VIRTUAL 1	ALL STUDENTS VIRTUAL 2	ALL STUDENTS VIRTUAL 3	ALL STUDENTS VIRTUAL 4
Traditional School Day 7	Traditional School Day 8	Traditional School Day 9	Traditional School Day 10	Traditional School Day 11
Traditional School Day 14	Traditional School Day 15	Traditional School Day 16	Traditional School Day 17	Traditional School Day 18
Traditional School Day 21	Traditional School Day 22	ALL SCHOOLS CLOSED 23	ALL SCHOOLS CLOSED 24	ALL SCHOOLS CLOSED 25
ALL SCHOOLS CLOSED 28	ALL SCHOOLS CLOSED 29	ALL SCHOOLS CLOSED 30	ALL SCHOOLS CLOSED 31	

JANUARY 2021

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				ALL SCHOOLS CLOSED 1
ALL STUDENTS VIRTUAL 4	ALL STUDENTS VIRTUAL 5	ALL STUDENTS VIRTUAL 6	ALL STUDENTS VIRTUAL 7	ALL STUDENTS VIRTUAL 8
Traditional School Day 11	Traditional School Day 12	Traditional School Day 13	Traditional School Day 14	Traditional School Day 15

Ironmen Cyber Academy / eLearning students will continue online education on all scheduled school days.

Bridge students will continue to attend all classes virtually on all scheduled school days.

Please note that these schedules are **subject to change**.

Please check the district webpage for the most up-to-date information.

Traditional School Day: Students physically report to their assigned school for a traditional in-person school day. If your student has a school Chromebook and charger, they should **bring both the Chromebook (fully charged for the school day) and the charger along to school with them.**

Virtual: Students attend school virtually from home using their Chromebook, attending all classes on the schedule provided by homeroom teachers.

Danville Area School District: Virtual Classes

Guidelines For DPS and LV Parents

Attendance is Required



*Virtual school "counts".
Attendance is taken each day.*

Daily Schedule



*Post your child's schedule in
several locations in your home.*

School Clothes



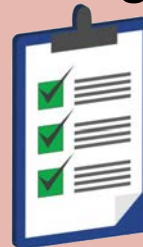
*For every class, students should be
wearing school-appropriate clothing.*

Quiet Work Space



*Provide a location where your
child can focus on work.*

Review Assignments



*Email your child's teacher to sign up
for assignment updates/reports.*

Learning Partner



*Make sure your child has a learning
partner with them during class.*

Charged Chromebook



*Please charge the
Chromebook nightly.*

Touch base with your child's teachers with any questions regarding assignments or your child's progress.

Technology Problem?

Fill out the form on our website, under
Distance Learning > Student/Family IT Support.

Struggling with virtual learning?

Email your child's teacher or call the school to ask to speak to the teacher or a guidance counselor.



***Thank you for
being our partner
in your child's
education!***

Virtual Class Guidelines

for DPS and LV Students



Attendance is Required



Virtual school "counts". Attendance is taken each day.

Daily Schedule



Hang up copies of your schedule - or even set alarms - so you're ready for all your classes!

School Clothes



For every Google Meet class, make sure you are wearing regular school clothes.

Quiet Work Space



Work at a table or desk where you can focus on your classwork.

Online Class



Keep your microphone muted unless you are called on.

Keep up to Date



Check your Google Classrooms & your Gmail several times a day.

Charged Chromebook



Make sure you charge the Chromebook nightly.

Ask your teacher if you have with any questions about your work or your grades.

Computer not working right? Ask your parents to fill out the form on our website! It's on the main page, under **Distance Learning**, and then **Student/Family IT Support**.

Having a hard time with online school? Ask your parents to email your teacher, or call the school to speak to your teacher.