



Otto-Eldred School District

143 R.L. Sweitzer Drive, Duke Center, PA 16729

(814) 817-1380 opt. 3 Fax (814) 966-3911

Matthew D. Splain, Superintendent

Jodi L. Flexman, Business Manager

Lindsay A. Burns, Director Pupil Services & Spec. Ed.

Otto-Eldred Elementary School

5 N. Bennett St, Eldred, PA 16731

(814) 817-1380 opt. 1

Fax (814) 225-4917

Nichole M. Garthwaite, Principal

Kim S. Alfieri, School Counselor

Otto-Eldred Junior Senior High School

143 R.L. Sweitzer Dr, Duke Center, PA 16729

(814) 817-1380 opt. 2

Fax (814) 966-3911

Kaci L. Daniels, Principal

Colleen E. Storer, School Counselor

September 20, 2021

Dear Otto-Eldred Community,

Between Friday and Monday, we received confirmation of four new positive student cases of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in at the Otto-Eldred Junior Senior High School. In total, we are tracking 7 cases between buildings. Cleaning and disinfecting of the exposed location have been completed and the individuals are self-isolating at home.

Due to consistent masking practices per the PA DOH Order, only 13 close contacts within our buildings were identified. About 14 additional students or staff are in quarantine due to community exposure. Adherence to the Mask Order has prevented at least two dozen students from having to quarantine from just the most recent cases identified.

We have maintained normal operations due to the diligence of our staff, students, and families. Thank you for supporting our efforts. We will continue monitoring trends and timelines to provide our students the best learning opportunity possible.

As the Coronavirus situation in our country and our community continues, we still urge you to take necessary precautions to limit the spread of COVID-19 in our school community.

- **Wear a mask when appropriate and maintain a physical distance of at least 6 feet** from any person while outside the home and avoid sharing food, drinks, or utensils.
- **Stay home when you are sick.** Watch for symptoms of COVID-19 including cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever, chills, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and/or diarrhea.
- **Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.** Sing the Happy Birthday song twice to help know when it has been 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use alcohol-based sanitizers that contain at least 60% alcohol.
- **Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue and then dispose of the tissue and clean your hands immediately.** If you do not have a tissue, use your sleeve, not your hands, to cover coughs and sneezes.
- **Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipes.**

If you are contacted by the Pennsylvania Department of Health or your local health department, please cooperate with monitoring and follow all instructions so that other people do not become sick.

If you or any members of your household develop symptoms of COVID-19 or have symptoms that worsen, notify your local health department or the Pennsylvania Department of Health immediately at 1-877-724-3258 and contact a health care provider. Additionally, please contact Mrs. Templin or either building office at (814)817-1380.

Please visit the [Pennsylvania Department of Health website](http://www.health.pa.gov) (www.health.pa.gov) for the latest and most accurate information about COVID-19.

Sincerely,

Matthew D. Splain

OESD Superintendent