



Pewaukee School District

COVID-19 Update November 16, 2020

Weekly Update Data: This information is provided in an effort to be transparent with the level of COVID-19 virus activity within the school district. Please note that information relative to any individual's health is very sensitive and private so we are taking steps to secure the anonymity of individuals. Student numbers will be published at a school level and the district as a whole. In any school in which the number is <5 we will post an * to avoid the likelihood of exposing the identity of an individual. We will provide a summary number for the district as a whole. For staff, because they are fewer in number, we will only post that information for the district as a whole.

Data related to the spread of the virus in our region can be reviewed using the **Waukesha County COVID-19 Dashboard** at <https://www.waukeshacounty.gov/COVID19>

Phase Status: *Current level = Phase 2; Grades 4K-5 (Full attendance MT,TH,F & All Virtual Wed) Phase 1; Grades 9-12 (hybrid / 50% attendance), Phase Zero; Grades 6-8 (Full Virtual 11/12 through 11/20, return to Phase Two on 11/23)* (*Note: **ACMS** scheduled to return to Phase 2 - 4 days in-person/Wed Virtual on 11/23)

Over the past week, we continued to experience challenges with staffing shortages due to COVID-19 that were the primary reason for moving Asa Clark to temporary virtual learning along with one classroom section at PLE and three houses (six classrooms) from Horizon Elementary. **At this time the PLE classroom section has returned to school in Phase 2 (four days in person / Wed virtual) and we are on track for Asa Clark and the 2 of the houses at Horizon to be back in school in Phase 2 on Monday, November 23rd.** The third house at Horizon is scheduled to return on 11/30. Although circumstances can change quickly, we look forward to having those students back next week. Parents and students can plan to return as scheduled unless otherwise communicated. Please don't hesitate to contact your school principal with any questions. In regards to PHS, we won't be considering a shift to a less restrictive phase until the rates of infection in the region show a stable decline.

Last week we shared some trend data to illustrate how quickly the rates of infection are increasing which explains the challenges we are facing in our schools. I have provided the **most recent data** below as an update. While it remains our objective to keep students attending in-person, our region continues to experience sustained rapid growth of virus transmission. Things have changed dramatically since the year began and in particular over recent weeks. Over the past three months:

- **Waukesha County** Daily New Infections: 9/9 = 45; 10/9 = 116; 11/9 = 520; (**This week, 11/16 = 1,128**)
- **Wisconsin** 7-Day Average Daily New Infections: 9/10 = 1,547; 10/10 = 2,394; 11/10 = 5,825; (**This week, 11/17 = 6,429**)

Specific to our community, the **Pewaukee Census Tract 14-day Case Rate** has risen from 139 to 185 to 248 to **409 cases over the past four weeks.** You will see in the table and graphs below that incidents among students and staff have steadily increased over the past month.



It is important for our families to be aware that if this escalating trend of infection in our region continues, it will negatively impact our ability to consistently remain open for in-person instruction. We believe our students and staff have done an admirable job working together to mitigate the spread of the virus at school and remain hopeful that these rates will decline. That said, it is important that families **have a plan** and are prepared for the potential of student quarantines or school closures.

Throughout this school year, we have worked to balance **three priorities** including: the health and safety of students and staff, the social and emotional wellness of students and staff, and student learning. To date, the incidents of infection that have led to isolation and quarantine for our staff and students have come primarily from exposure outside of school from family members or at social gatherings. Anything that parents and students can do to limit your potential exposure outside of school will be important in our ability to maintain in-person learning at school.

These measures include:

- limiting social circles / interaction
- wearing face coverings
- social distancing
- frequent handwashing
- monitor for symptoms and ***not sending symptomatic students to school***
- getting adequate rest, good nutrition, and exercise

It is also important for **families to communicate with our school staff to support contact tracing efforts**. Last week we shared a letter from the Waukesha County Executive and Health Officer regarding the need to **support and comply with contact tracing and quarantine if we are to limit the spread and Stay Safe to Stay Open**.

This situation has placed a heavy burden on families, school staff, and students. Working together, we have been able to provide strong learning opportunities, whether it be in person or online, and access to extracurricular activities that can be so important by providing many of our kids an outlet for their passions and to help maintain a sense of normalcy. We will undoubtedly have some challenging months ahead, but everyday we move closer to getting through this. Thank you for your continued patience, cooperation, and support.

Data Table Terms

Active Cases: This term refers to individuals with a confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis who are not considered recovered. This would apply to any individual who has not completed the required 10-day isolation period which must also include 24-hours symptom free.

Probable COVID-19: This term refers to individuals who are symptomatic and have a known exposure to someone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19. Probable COVID-19 cases are included in the active cases data in the table below.

Quarantine: This term refers to individuals who are placed in quarantine due to a known exposure to an individual confirmed to have COVID-19 or due to the presentation of symptoms consistent with the virus.



November 16, 2020		
School	Student Active Cases (Confirmed COVID-19 / Non-recovered & Probable COVID-19)	Students Quarantined (Symptomatic of, or Exposed to, COVID-19 / 10-14-day Quarantine)
PLE	*	42
Horizon	6	34
Asa Clark MS	*	35
PHS	6	49
Total	17	160
District (Staff data x district level only to protect privacy of individuals)	Staff Active Cases (Confirmed COVID-19 / Non-recovered & Probable COVID-19)	Staff Quarantined (Symptomatic of or Exposed to COVID-19 / 14-day Quarantine)
PSD	6	27
* Indicates less than 5 cases to protect the privacy of individuals infected or in quarantine		

(Note: The **table above** represents most current day's data, whereas the **graph below** shows weekly trends from each Friday to provide a historical comparison. So the data between the two will often differ.)

(As of November 13, 2020)

Weekly Summary

