

Worthington Schools COVID Update



LEARNING MODE DECISION MAKING GUIDE

	Goal Learning Mode		
Primary Factors and Thresholds for Reaching Goal Learning Mode	GREEN ZONE Lower Risk of Transmission Full In-Person	YELLOW ZONE Moderate Risk of Transmission Hybrid	RED ZONE Higher Risk of Transmission Full Remote
Cases/100,000 people in the last two weeks (Worthington City School District Attendance Zone) via COVID-19 Analytics and Targeted Surveillance	<50	50-250	>250
5 Mitigation Strategies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistent and correct use of masks • Social distancing to 6 feet • Hand hygiene • Cleaning and disinfection • Contact tracing 	4 met	5 met	N/A

Secondary factors to be taken into consideration

- Student and Staff Absenteeism
- Effects of asymptomatic quarantine students/staff on district operations
- Percentage of PCR tests that are positive during the last 14 days
- State of Ohio County Warning levels (Yellow, Orange, Red and Purple) for Franklin and Delaware
- School clinic visits/1000 for COVID/Influenza-like symptoms (relative to historical trends)
- District level Student Achievement Data (high school, middle schools, elementary school)
- Central OH data on rates of infection and positive testing for specific age groups
- Other specific building data may indicate the need for step down at a particular building (example, an outbreak in a specific building)
- Teacher, staff, administration, parent data/feedback
- Expert opinions of county or state level public health officials

The purpose of secondary factor analysis will be to assist and further guide decision making at each two-week interval.

COVID-19 Data
Surveillance
Reports
1/28/21
(CATS)

Date range for rates in this table is from 2021-01-14 to 2021-01-28.

Two Week Rate per 100,000

District	Crude Rate	Model Estimates	
	Crude Rate	Model Estimated Rate	Model Estimated Interval
Bexley City School District	581	638	(594, 682)
Canal Winchester Local School District	647	671	(624, 719)
Columbus City School District	488	515	(496, 533)
Dublin City School District	581	607	(578, 637)
Gahanna-Jefferson City School District	542	555	(522, 589)
Grandview Heights City School District	620	733	(651, 814)
Groveport Madison Local School District	563	598	(567, 628)
Hamilton Local School District	451	486	(438, 534)
Hilliard City School District	696	735	(706, 765)
Licking Heights Local School District	562	604	(552, 655)
New Albany-Plain Local School District	603	639	(600, 677)
Pickerington Local School District	647	670	(635, 705)
Reynoldsburg City School District	661	715	(674, 755)
South-Western City School District	519	547	(522, 572)
Upper Arlington City School District	603	643	(611, 676)
Westerville City School District	499	552	(527, 578)
Whitehall City School District	525	571	(529, 613)
Worthington City School District	480	503	(479, 527)

COVID-19 Data Surveillance Reports

2/4/21
(CATS)

Date range for rates in this table is from 2021-01-21 to 2021-02-04.

Two Week Rate per 100,000

District	Crude Rate	Model Estimates	
	Crude Rate	Model Estimated Rate	Model Estimated Interval
Bexley City School District	443	496	(452, 540)
Canal Winchester Local School District	470	514	(466, 561)
Columbus City School District	364	385	(367, 404)
Dublin City School District	437	475	(446, 504)
Gahanna-Jefferson City School District	501	534	(500, 568)
Grandview Heights City School District	632	705	(625, 786)
Groveport Madison Local School District	442	455	(425, 484)
Hamilton Local School District	464	499	(450, 547)
Hilliard City School District	450	462	(433, 491)
Licking Heights Local School District	433	493	(442, 545)
New Albany-Plain Local School District	535	579	(541, 617)
Pickerington Local School District	471	496	(461, 531)
Reynoldsburg City School District	463	488	(448, 528)
South-Western City School District	405	425	(399, 450)
Upper Arlington City School District	407	449	(416, 483)
Westerville City School District	359	373	(351, 395)
Whitehall City School District	403	447	(404, 489)
Worthington City School District	365	365	(340, 390)

Worthington Schools COVID-19 Dashboard

Building	New Cases This Week: 02/01/21 - 02/07/21			Cumulative Total	Quarantine Reports Updated Daily	
	Staff Positive	Student Positive	Total Positives	Total Positives Since 8/17/20	Daily Staff Quarantine	Daily Student Quarantine
Thomas Worthington High Sc...	0	3	3	90	1	6
Worthington Kilbourne High S...	0	0	0	66	1	5
* Linworth Experiential Progra...	0	0	*	0	0	0
* Worthington Academy	0	0	*	2	0	0
Kilbourne Middle School	0	1	1	10	1	5
Mc Cord Middle School	1	0	1	29	1	1
Phoenix Middle School	0	0	0	12	0	0
Worthingway Middle School	0	0	0	27	0	0
Bluffsview Elementary	0	0	0	11	0	0
Brookside Elementary	0	0	0	8	0	0
Colonial Hills Elementary	0	0	0	5	0	0
Evening Street Elementary	0	2	2	12	1	3
Granby Elementary	0	0	0	9	0	0
Liberty Elementary	0	1	1	11	0	3
Slate Hill Elementary	0	0	0	10	0	1
Wilson Hill Elementary	1	0	1	19	0	2
Worthington Estates Element...	0	0	0	8	0	0
Worthington Hills Elementary	0	0	0	9	0	3
Worthington Park Elementary	0	0	0	13	1	2
Sutter Park Elementary	0	0	0	8	0	2
Other District Buildings	0	0	0	16	0	0
Grand total	2	7	9	375	6	33

Vaccination Update

- On February 3rd Worthington staff began receiving the first round of vaccinations. We expect this will continue until February 16th.
- Worthington Schools will work with Columbus Public Health to offer vaccinations to employees. We believe it will be the Pfizer vaccine and there will be 21 days between the first and second dose. Those dates are expected to be February 24th - March 10th.
- Full Protection for Worthington staff around March 24th - Source [Ohio State](#)
- Worthington employees were surveyed and over 90% committed to get the vaccine.
- Columbus Public Health has been a GREAT partner!

- Full in-person: 376 school districts representing 45.8% of students
- Hybrid: 183 school districts representing 36.6% of students
- Online only: 50 school districts representing 17.6% of students

Variables for All-In Instruction

1. The vaccine administration needs to go well. Meaning that staff are vaccinated as we are hopeful they will be. Our staff will be vaccinated by Columbus Public Health. First round vaccinations will occur February 3 - 16th and the second round February 24 - March 10th. Thus, it will be March 24th at the earliest that protection occurs for all frontline staff. We're hopeful that the schedule is met but it is contingent on Columbus Public Health (CPH) actually getting enough vaccines from the state and there are no guarantees there.
2. COVID numbers in our community need to drop precipitously. Community spread in our community currently stands at a very high incidence of COVID within our community as the Ohio State Data puts us at around 400 per 100,000 or 2 times higher than where we were in October.
3. If community COVID numbers do decrease significantly we will want to learn whether CPH and Franklin County Public Health (FCPH) continue to recommend six feet of social distancing. They do right now. Or, we as a board and administration will need to determine whether we are comfortable only distancing to the maximum amount possible in order to bring all students back. In most spaces, this would be around three feet.
4. This is all contingent on there not being any curveballs with variants of the virus, etc.

Additional Things to Consider

- Over the last few months we have seen that our concerns that schools could be places of high spread because they are congregate settings have not been realized in some communities. (Large suburban districts such as Mason and Lakota in Cincinnati, Big Walnut in the OCC, Private schools such as Watterson, etc...)
- While community spread has been extremely high, schools have proven to be safe places with low infection rates. This finding supports the benefits of using multiple mitigation strategies including masks, social distancing, enhanced cleaning and sanitation practices, and hand washing as a means of preventing spread in schools.
- The addition of the opportunity to vaccinate staff is another mitigation strategy that provides protection.
- This additional strategy may offer the opportunity to move all students back to school with all mitigation strategies still in place with a modification to the social distancing standard.

In Ohio, each child is *challenged, prepared and empowered.*

Reminder about school-based quarantining guidelines

Just a brief reminder about Ohio's new school-based quarantining guidelines. It has come to our attention that there may be some schools and districts that view the new quarantining guidance as suggesting that schools no longer need to follow masking or distancing protocols in classrooms. This interpretation is incorrect. In fact, the relative safety of the classroom setting **DEPENDS** on consistently close adherence to compliance with safety protocols. These protocols are specified in the [Ohio Department of Health: COVID-19 Health and Prevention Guidance for Ohio K-12 Schools](#).

All students and adults in classrooms should continue to wear masks and maintain social distancing. Frequent hand washing and room cleaning protocols also should be followed.

To be clear, the new quarantine guidelines for the classroom only are contingent on the other safety precautions (wearing masks, maintaining distance, hand washing) being continuously implemented.

Thank you for everything you are doing for Ohio's students.

SUPERINTENDENT RECOMMENDATION

Continue in-person hybrid learning
- Trent Bowers

QUESTIONS