



# Mount Carmel Area School District

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SUPERINTENDENT

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This is a message for students and parents of the Mount Carmel Area School District:

Mount Carmel Area School District will provide weekly updates (Wednesdays) with COVID-19 positive case numbers for our school district as well as updated local zip code and community positive numbers. ***(Our COVID-19 real time tracker is updated daily for those in our learning community looking for more frequent updates and is found on the main school district website at [www.mca.k12.pa.us](http://www.mca.k12.pa.us).)*** Our district will continue the practice of communicating immediately with any staff member or student that may be considered a close contact of a positive case.

All Pennsylvania school districts must track positive case numbers in a rolling 14 day period and make instructional decisions based on those case numbers. Decisions by our school district will be made with guidance from the Pennsylvania Department of Health and the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

Our current positive case number in our elementary school is at one (1) and two (2) in our junior-senior high school.

***Cases only count when a staff member or student is physically in our buildings during their infectious period or 48 hours before their test date if asymptomatic.***

As we all have learned throughout this pandemic, our internal numbers can rise quickly and we all must be prepared for return to virtual instruction for a certain number of days due to a rise in cases. ***This process is explained in the December 27th holiday break update video found on our main website.*** Positive case totals will be reset after the district can verify contact tracing and the necessary cleaning has taken place. Having our buildings closed last Monday (MLK day) and yesterday (snow day) has helped in that effort.

Please continue to follow all COVID-19 related mitigation efforts and continue to screen your child daily before sending them to school. ***Also reminder to keep your child home if sick or exhibiting any COVID-19 symptoms. This is one of the more important mitigation measures to keep our schools open for in-person instruction.***

With the vaccine rolling out to more in our local community we are hoping and praying the end to the pandemic will be coming soon. Please continue to be safe.