



Amherst Schools COVID-19 Update

9/16/21

As the pandemic continues to challenge everyone, the Amherst Schools constantly assess the measures we are taking to keep everyone safe. As we have done since the beginning of the pandemic, we follow recommendations of Lorain County Public Health (LCPH). Please see the updated cumulative student COVID-19 case totals by grade level for the first four weeks of school in Amherst.

CUMULATIVE COVID-19 AMHERST STUDENT DATA* 4 Week Total (8/19 - 9/16)

Grade Level	COVID-19 Student Cases (Documented)	Percentage of Student Population	COVID-19 Student Cases (Undocumented)	Percentage of Student Population
Kindergarten	1	<1%	0	0%
1st Grade	4	1.5%	1	<1%
2nd Grade	2	<1%	1	<1%
3rd Grade	0	0%	2	<1%
4th Grade	10	3.6%	6	2.2%
5th Grade	10	3.2%	14	4.5%
6th Grade	11	4.4%	8	3.2%
7th Grade	5	1.7%	7	2.4%
8th Grade	7	2.3%	2	<1%
9th Grade	6	2.0%	2	<1%
10th Grade	1	<1%	3	1.0%
11th Grade	2	<1%	3	<1%
12th Grade	2	<1%	3	1.0%
TOTAL	61	1.6%	52	1.4%

*Current data as of 12:00 p.m. on 9/16/21. Not all of this data is reflected on the ODH dashboard due to a lag in state reporting.

In response to these numbers, the district, in conjunction with LCPH, has developed three updates regarding our response to COVID-19 in the Amherst community:

REPORTING

At the start of the school year, our district reported all probable cases of COVID-19 as positive cases regardless of documentation. On Tuesday, Commissioner Covell advised that we report positive COVID-19 cases when we receive proper documentation.

Currently, only 54% of our reported, positive COVID-19 student cases have proper documentation. If your child tests positive, please submit the documentation of the positive test to the school office. Once we have proper documentation, we will report your child's positive case to LCPH, and your child's absences will be documented as "medically certified." Medically certified absences do not count towards the House Bill 410 attendance requirements.

MASKING

The district, in conjunction with LCPH, has established a weekly threshold of documented positive COVID-19 student cases which would necessitate a masking requirement. **Moving forward, masks will be required for any school building when the number of documented positive COVID-19 student cases reaches 3% of the school building population within a given week.** In these scenarios, masks will be required for 10 school days, but that requirement may be lengthened in response to additional positive cases. Additionally, the district may require masks for a school building population as it approaches the 3% threshold, after consultation with LCPH. When the threshold is met, parents of the building will receive notification by email and/or all-call regarding a required mask start and end date. We continue to strongly recommend that students wear masks while in our buildings.

COVID-19 BUILDING STUDENT DATA FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 13TH**

	Powers Student Cases	Nord Student Cases	AJH Student Cases	Steele Student Cases
Cases	2	10	11	5
Threshold %	<1%	1.7%	1.3%	<1%

**Current data as of 6:00 p.m. on 9/16/21.

Currently, no school has met the threshold for the week of September 13th to require school-wide masking for the next 10 school days. These numbers will be updated at close of business on Friday, September 17th.

EDUCATION OPTION

The district has always provided a remote learning option for children who have medical conditions that would necessitate that the child learn from home. Consistent with how we continually modify our approach to COVID, the district is exploring the possibility and feasibility of waiving the medical exemption requirement for access to a remote learning option for grades K-5.

As always, we ask that you closely monitor your students' health at home, and do not send them to school if they are sick. We appreciate your flexibility as we aim to provide students with a quality education in a healthy and safe environment. To access this information, please visit our district website at www.amherstk12.org/district/covid.