

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 26, 2021

Quarantines increase at area schools

One hundred thirty-one students, nine staff members in total will quarantine

Eagle, CO – Eagle County School District announced that six schools sent COVID-19 notifications to their community recently after Public Health informed them of positive cases. Eagle County Charter Academy was notified Sunday of a student testing positive. The positive case was last in school on Friday, January 22. Twenty-one students and one staff member will quarantine related to this incident. Brush Creek Elementary School also sent notices to their community on Sunday after being informed of a student testing positive. The positive case was last in school on Thursday, January 21. Eleven students and one staff member will quarantine related to this incident. In both cases, contact tracing determined that those in close contact with either of the positive cases needed to quarantine and received specific orders from Public Health to follow.

Two schools sent notices on Monday, January 25 after Public Health informed them of positive cases. Those needing to quarantine were determined through contact tracing, and have received specific orders from Public Health to follow related to their incident. A single positive case at Red Hill Elementary School resulted in 40 students and one staff member needing to quarantine. The positive case was last in school on Friday, January 22. Three unrelated positives at Battle Mountain High School resulted in a total of 24 students needing to quarantine. No staff members were determined to be close contacts related to these positives. Each of the positive cases was last in school on Friday, January 22.

Edwards Elementary School and Eagle Valley High School sent notices to their communities today after Public Health informed them of positive cases. The EES positive case was last in school on Friday, January 22. Fifteen students and one staff member will quarantine related to this incident. Contact tracing related to the EVHS incident determined 20 students and five staff members will quarantine. In both incidents, those needing to quarantine received specific orders from Public Health to follow.

Importantly, adhering to the following critical practices remain essential to containing the virus for the rest of the school year.

- If your child is sick, please keep them home.
- If they have symptoms consistent with COVID-19, please seek the medical advice of your family's physician and have them tested.

- If someone in your household is being tested for COVID-19, please keep your children home until the results are known.
- If someone in your household is positive for COVID-19, the entire household must quarantine (and not leave their home) as directed by Public Health.
- If you or a student is directed to quarantine, they must remain home, stay away from others, not go to work or school, not have playdates or sleepovers, not engage in extracurricular activities.

The district continues to thank the families of students and our staff members for following guidelines and staying home when sick, when someone in their household is being tested for COVID-19, or when someone in their household is positive for the virus. Limiting the presence of the virus in our schools by staying home is our first layer of protection. The persistent and consistent use of face masks and social distancing within schools help control and contain the virus. Focused quarantining by Public Health separates those most at-risk of exposure to protect the broader school community. So far, very few cases have developed among those in quarantine.