



November 17, 2020

Dear Canton Local Families,

The Canton Local School District is committed to as much transparency and information sharing as possible regarding COVID-19 in our school community. We are working closely with several area health departments, and, in the event of a positive case, we communicate directly with the Stark County Health Department to provide all necessary information to aid in contact tracing efforts.

Since school began, there have been 30 reported COVID-19 cases to the Ohio Department of Health for Canton Local Schools. It is important to understand what this number represents. Eighteen of these cases are individuals who have tested positive. The Stark County Health Department has the responsibility of assessing individuals that have been in close contact with a positive case and can deem them as probable cases if symptoms are present during the quarantine period. There have been 12 cases identified as “probable” and are counted in the Canton Local totals, even though a positive test was not indicated. The number reported to the Ohio Department of Health represents both actual positive cases and the probable cases therefore Canton Local is reported as having 30 cases.

	POSITIVE CASES August 16 - November 16, 2020	PROBABLE CASES August 16 - November 16, 2020	Total Number of Students/Staff Quarantined based on Contact Tracing for POSITIVE and PROBABLE Cases
Walker	2	11	312
FMMS	2	1	58
CSHS	14	0	150

School Districts throughout Stark County, as well as surrounding counties, have been struggling to find substitute teachers to cover classrooms for staff members out due to quarantine protocols. As a result of the shortage of substitute teachers, we will be assessing daily the number of staff members and students quarantined due to positive cases. Our goal is to keep our students in school and our school buildings open. In the event of an onset of a COVID-19 outbreak, we look at closing classrooms first, then buildings, and lastly the option of a district-wide shut down.

We appreciate our community’s efforts to help combat the spread of COVID-19 by wearing masks, limiting contact to include only immediate family members, and keeping six feet apart whenever possible. We are committed to the health and safety of Canton Local students and staff with the intention of remaining in school as long and safely as possible.

Sincerely,

Steve Milano
Superintendent