

Understanding the COVID-19 Dashboard Q's and A's

What is the COVID-19 Dashboard?

The COVID-19 Dashboard was created by the Departments of Education and Health as a system to monitor cases of COVID by school building. It provides a system to track how many cases of COVID have occurred in a 14-day period and requires school closures when thresholds are met that are based on building size. Please refer to the COVID Dashboard for building specific rubrics.

How is the 14-day rolling average work?

The 14-day rolling average begins on the day that a person who has tested positive is first symptomatic. The 14-Day rolling average does not begin on the date when a positive COVID test is returned, which is the date our district COVID announcements are made. If someone is symptomatic on December 1st, with a COVID test conducted on the 2nd, they will remain as a positive through the 14th on the dashboard if the test comes back positive.

Could there be any positive cases that do not appear on the Dashboard?

The answer is yes. If the person that ultimately tested positive was not in school during the period in which they were contagious, they would not be counted. As an example, consider a student that is home on quarantine because they were in close contact with a family member that has tested positive. If the student were in close contact with a family member that was COVID positive on December 1st, their quarantine would run through the 10th. If the student begins to exhibit symptoms on the 9th, and is determined to be positive for COVID, they would not be added to the dashboard as they were not in school during the period in which they were contagious.

Is there a review process using the Department of Health for additional guidance?

The Department of Health is involved in the process from the minute the district learns of a positive COVID case. All positive cases of COVID are researched by the East Lycoming Nursing staff and reviewed by the PA Department of Health. The determination of the symptomatic period, determination of close contacts, quarantine periods and inclusion on the COVID Dashboard are determined by the Department of Health.