



January 3, 2021

Dear Canton Local Families,

On Wednesday, December 30, 2020, Governor DeWine announced that Ohio is changing its guidance regarding quarantines following an in-classroom exposure in K-12 schools. Moving forward, students and teachers exposed to a COVID-positive person in school are no longer required to quarantine as long as the exposure occurred in a classroom setting and all students/teachers were wearing masks and following other appropriate protocols. The change does not apply to contact in outside settings, including after school activities and athletics.

The recommendation follows an evaluation of virus spread in Ohio schools conducted by researchers with the Ohio Schools COVID-19 Evaluation Team. [\(click for link to research\)](#) According to the report, preliminary results of the evaluation found no discernible difference in the risk of contracting the coronavirus between those in close contact with a COVID-positive person in the classroom and those who were farther away.

"This evaluation confirms for us that Ohio's classrooms are a safe place for our students and that the commitment our schools have made to keeping kids safe in the classroom is working," said Governor DeWine.

As always, we will communicate new information as it becomes available. Since the onset of the pandemic, the health and safety of our students and staff has remained our highest priority, and we will continue to follow the best practice guidelines of health officials.

Should you have any questions regarding these policy changes, please contact your child's building principal.

Sincerely,

*Steve Milano*

Steve Milano  
Superintendent