

Aspen View Academy continually monitors guidance from the various health agencies and meet regularly with our school nurse to ensure that we are staying up to date with COVID-19 guidance for schools. Here are three important things for you to know as well as some FAQ's and answers:

1. Make sure you know [when to keep your child home](#) (IMPORTANT - please read).
2. If there is a chance your child was exposed to a student or staff member with COVID-19, we *will communicate with you directly*. General case notifications will be sent to the grade-level(s) impacted, not necessarily to the entire AVA community.
3. The state, Tri-County, and Aspen View Academy leadership will determine if our school needs to go to 100% eLearning at any point. DCSD going 100% eLearning does not necessarily mean that we will. Douglas County metrics can be tracked [here](#). (include line to Tri-County Dashboard)

### **DOUGLAS COUNTY CASE DATA UPDATES**

For those of you who like data, you can view daily case and metrics updates specifically for Douglas County through the [Tri-County Health Dashboard](#).

### **CLARIFICATION AROUND ILLNESS AND “WHAT-IF”**

We have received further guidance from CDPHE around when to keep kids at home and what happens if we have a positive case of COVID-19 in our AVA community. In the meantime, here are the answers to some commonly asked questions.

#### **When should I keep my child home?**

Please carefully review the newly-released [CDPHE Guidance on when to keep your student home](#). Douglas County is currently considered low community transmission.

#### **When would my child be sent home?**

Aspen View Academy staff will follow the [CDPHE Guidance on when to send a student home](#). Basically, if your child is displaying a major symptom (fever, chills, loss of taste or smell, cough, breathing issue) or a combination of two minor symptoms (see link), your child will be sent home.

#### **Will a cohort be quarantined every time a child in the cohort has a symptom?**

No. Quarantining will only occur if there is a confirmed positive case or if an individual has two or more major symptoms that are not explained by anything else (see what-if questions below). Otherwise there will be a four-day evaluation period for a doctor to determine if it is COVID or something else, per [CDPHE Guidance on cohort quarantining](#).

#### **When can my child return to school?**

AVA staff will follow the [CDPHE Return to School Guidance](#) to determine when students can return to in-person learning. If symptoms are resolved within 24 hours of onset or there is an alternative diagnosis, the student may return 24 hours after symptom resolution. If the student is positive for COVID-19, they can return 10 days from the onset of symptoms as long as they have been fever-free for 24 hours.

#### **Important: the definition of EXPOSURE**

An individual is considered EXPOSED if they were within 6 feet of the infected individual for 15 minutes while the infected individual was symptomatic or during the two days preceding the onset of symptoms. Only people who were directly exposed would need to quarantine.

#### **What if an AVA student tests positive?**

The student's cohort would quarantine and move to 100% eLearning for 14 days (from the last date the student was in class). The student's siblings and any other directly exposed students (carpool partners, etc.) would move to eLearning during that time as well. Any staff members that were exposed (see

definition) would also quarantine and will facilitate the remote learning. The school or health officials will directly notify families of exposed students/cohorts with quarantining instructions. The school will also notify the impacted grade-level without naming the individual (privacy reasons).

#### **What if an AVA staff member tests positive?**

Any staff members that were exposed (see definition) would quarantine for 14 days (from date of last exposure) and facilitate eLearning if applicable. Any exposed (see definition) students or student cohorts would quarantine and move to 100% eLearning. The school or health officials will directly notify families of exposed students/cohorts and exposed staff members with quarantining instructions. The school will also notify the impacted grade-level(s) without naming the individual (privacy reasons).

#### **What if the parent or sibling of an AVA student tests positive?**

The AVA student (and any AVA siblings) with the sick household member will quarantine for 14 days and move to eLearning. The AVA student's cohort is unaffected unless the AVA student tests positive.

#### **Questions? Contact AVA's school health assistant or nurse consultant:**

Nikkie Roberts, health assistant (nroberts@aspviewacademy.org)  
Karin Gardner, RN (kgardner@aspviewacademy.org)

Please keep in mind that each situation is handled on a case by case basis and we will follow the guidance of AVA's school nurse who will contact the various health agencies.

### **SCHOOL CLOSURES - WHEN WOULD AVA GO 100% eLearning**

The recent guidance has also clarified school closures. Below are descriptions of what circumstances would prompt us to have a partial or full school closure. *It is important to note that DCSD shifting to 100% eLearning does not necessarily mean AVA will do the same.*

#### **Partial School Closure**

- A quarantining cohort will result in that cohort going 100% eLearning.
- If a quarantining cohort results in staffing issues, the grade level may need to go to 100% eLearning.
- Quarantining staff combined with substitute teacher shortages may result in a grade-level going 100% eLearning.

#### **Full School Closure (go to 100% eLearning)**

- 5% of students or staff are positive with COVID-19 within a 14-day period.
- Two or more positive cases in multiple related cohorts within a 14-day period.

#### **Full District Closure (go to 100% eLearning)**

- Tri-County Health puts Douglas County in Stay at Home Status.
- The Governor puts the entire state in Stay at Home Status.
- Tri-County orders a closure for specific reasons.