

Please Dear MVCDC Families,

Just as public health experts predicted, we are seeing a major spike in COVID-19 cases. **We had 11 cases in the past two weeks.**

- 3 cases involved staff members at two different administrative office buildings in Clark and Montgomery counties; no additional staff had been in contact with the individuals.
- 2 cases involved ECEC classroom staff, requiring 2 additional staff to quarantine and 2 Head Start classrooms to close. Those classrooms are back open.
- 1 case involved a kitchen staff member at the MET, requiring 6 additional staff to quarantine.
- 2 cases involved non-classroom staff at Medway.
- 1 case involved a staff member at Miami View.
- 1 case involved a child at Twin Towers, requiring 2 staff to quarantine and the classroom to close. That classroom will re-open December 16.
- 1 case involved a staff member at Kings Highway.

Especially because Montgomery County has been designated “purple” — the highest COVID-19 level on Ohio’s public health advisory list — we need your help to keep everyone safe. It’s critical that **we wear masks anytime we’re in public or with others who don’t live in our homes.** We also have to **keep socially distancing and wash our hands frequently.** These precautions stop the spread!

The Centers for Disease Control is changing its recommendation regarding the length of time individuals should quarantine if they’re exposed to COVID-19. **The Ohio Department of Health has not changed its policies, so we will follow the 14-day restriction regarding any cases involving staff or children.**

Ohio’s newest travel advisory is for 14 states. If your child has visited or will be visiting one of the following places, they will need to quarantine for 14 days before returning to school: **Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Dakota and Utah.**

Don’t forget that the holidays are coming, and MVCDC programs will be closed beginning Thursday, December 24 through Friday, January 1. Please check with your particular center as closings for Part Year and Year Around are slightly different.

If you know someone who has a preschooler who was attending a Dayton Public Schools program prior to its closing, let them know that we’d love to serve them in-person or virtually while their classroom is closed. Invite them to enroll. They can return to their DPS Preschool when classes resume.

Recently, we held a small focus group with MVCDC families where we asked them what they liked about our programs and services and how we can improve. It was a wonderful discussion, and we got great ideas that we’ll be following up on! **We’ll be scheduling more conversations like this in the coming months. We hope you’ll join us!** Watch for an invitation!

Gratefully,