



*Dawson County Schools*  
28 Main Street  
Dawsonville, GA 30534  
(706) 265-3246  
FAX (706) 265-1226  
[www.dawsoncountyschools.org](http://www.dawsoncountyschools.org)  
Damon Gibbs, Superintendent

*Board Members:*  
Karen Armstrong  
Doris Cook  
Nathan Ingram  
Elaine Wilson

August 19, 2021

Dear Dawson County Parents/Guardians:

When we closed out the 2020-2021 school year in May, we felt optimistic that the end of the pandemic was in sight. But, unfortunately, that is not the case. Today, there are 57 student cases of COVID (1.5% of our students) and 14 staff cases (2.60% of our staff) across the district.

Until we see a decline in case numbers, I find it necessary to update our mitigation strategies. Effective Friday, August 20, we will resume contact tracing in our classrooms. We will notify the parent or guardian of any student who has been directly exposed to a positive COVID case (within six feet for 15 cumulative minutes or longer). Please visit the district website for details about additional mitigation strategies being implemented at this time.

If you receive a letter from your child's school notifying you of direct exposure, you **may choose** to self-quarantine your child. Parents making this choice must contact the school. Students will have access to their materials through Schoology. Students that actively participate during a self-quarantine will be counted present. Symptomatic children **MUST** stay home.

I continue to track our local data each day. Beginning Friday, August 20, we will also return to posting daily positive COVID numbers on our district website. If necessary, moving forward, additional mitigation strategies may be added, which will also be shared on our district website. I appreciate your understanding as we make these necessary changes.

Sincerely,

Dr. Damon Gibbs  
Superintendent of Schools