

COVID-19 Response Team Meeting Minutes
January 14, 2022

Members Present: Sue Rubbe, Lester Brent, Kelly Avery, Jacqui McGettigan, Fire Chief Steve Heath, Police Chief Will Ulwick
Absent with Notice: Tim Paquette, Mary Moriarty

1. **Review of January 7, 2022 minutes:** No changes noted
2. **Review Confirmed Case Tool:** The COVID-19 Response Team reviewed the Confirmed Case Tool. Eleven positive cases were included.
3. **Decision Making Tool:** The COVID-19 Response Team reviewed local and county data. Mrs. Rubbe noted that it is still very difficult to reach anyone at DHHS to determine cluster status. In previous cluster related conversations, DHHS did not make any additional recommendations because we are already a fully masked school.

The COVID-19 Response Team also revisited the question of when we would need to move to cohorts. The following items were noted:

- K-5 classes are the only ones who can easily cohort
- 6-8 classes are mixed grades by subject
- We are seeing a lot of household transmission and less school transmission
- Cohorts would be an additional mitigation tool if we identify multiple clusters

Staff was also discussed. This week the staffing situation has been extremely strained. The new 5-day quarantine/isolation guidelines should help to get staff back to work sooner.

Neck gators are no longer considered an effective well-fitting mask and will no long be allowed at AES.

4. **Updated CDC/DHHS Guidelines:**
 - SAU 48 and Inter-Lakes School District have adopted the new guidelines
 - Mrs. Rubbe reported that per the Healthcare Partner presentation with Dr. Chan, schools are mandated to adopt the five-day quarantine and isolation guidelines. The only exception would be a member of the school community who cannot or will not comply with the post isolation/quarantine guidelines.
 - Separate eating accommodations are not required for students return from the five-day isolation/quarantine. The recommendation is to minimize the time without masks and distance students as much as possible. (The Inter-Lakes letter to parents reads, "The School District is continuing to operate with lunches in our cafeteria. Should you have individual concerns for your child in such a setting, please reach out to your child's Principal to see what alternative may be arranged.")
 - The five-day isolation/quarantine guidance stresses well fitting masks. It was recommended that our correspondence to parents include a specific description of a well-fitting mask.
 - Mrs. McGettigan will work to create a parent information document that includes the two new flow charts from DHHS, along with detailed mask descriptions, lunch room and general reminders.
 - Per the AES Opening Plan, the COVID-19 Response Team has the authority to adopt the five-day quarantine/isolation guidance (as long as the recommendation aligns with minimal DHHS guidelines) without School Board approval
5. **Next Meeting:** The next COVID-19 Response Team meeting will take place on Friday, January 14, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqui McGettigan
Office Manager

**COVID-19 Decision Making Tool
Ashland Elementary School**

Current Mitigation Response Level as of January 7, 2021	Blue—Low transmission	Yellow—Moderate Transmission	Orange-- Substantial Transmission	Red High Transmission
--	-----------------------	------------------------------	--	-----------------------

Date: January 14, 2022

Local & Statewide COVID - 19 Data Review

Active Confirmed Cases of COVID-19 in School	12
Active Cluster of Cases in School	0
Active Outbreak of Cases in School	0
Number of Pending Known COVID-19 Tests	3
Number of Quarantines	5
Number of Isolations	15
Number of Active Cases in Ashland Last Week	18 Active Cases as of 1/7/2022
Number of Active Cases in Ashland	20 Active Cases as of 1/11/2022 24 as of 1/13/2022
Grafton County Transmission Level	High Community Transmission/RED
Data Summary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90% of all infections are Omicron • We continue to see high community transmission • Limited availability of assistance from DHHS due to the high number of cases throughout the state.

Decision Point:
Does the data review warrant a change in response level?
No—all in agreement

Attendance Are staff absences impacting the ability to effectively supervise students? Are staff absences impacting the ability to effectively provide learning opportunities? Are student absences impacting the ability to learn effectively?	
Staff	Extremely strained
Students	No
Decision Point: Does the data/information on absences warrant a change in response level? No—all in agreement	
Cleaning Supplies	
Status of availability of materials & staff to clean for the next two weeks	Good
Status of availability of materials & staff to clean for the next 2 weeks (or 4 weeks out)	Good
Disposable Masks, Gloves, Disposable Shields/Drapes	Good
Decision Point: Do the current conditions for cleaning warrant a change in response level? No—all in agreement	
Mitigation Efforts	
Face Coverings	Good with reminders
Physical Distancing	Good with reminders
Hand Washing	Good
Limited Illness at School	Good
Decision Point: Does the level of compliance with mitigation efforts warrant a change in response level? No—all in agreement	

Mitigation Response Level based on transmission levels in the community and the county

Recommended Decision Date: January 14, 2022

Anticipated Recommended Response Level for Next Week

Orange +

Anticipated Recommended Response Level for Next Four Weeks

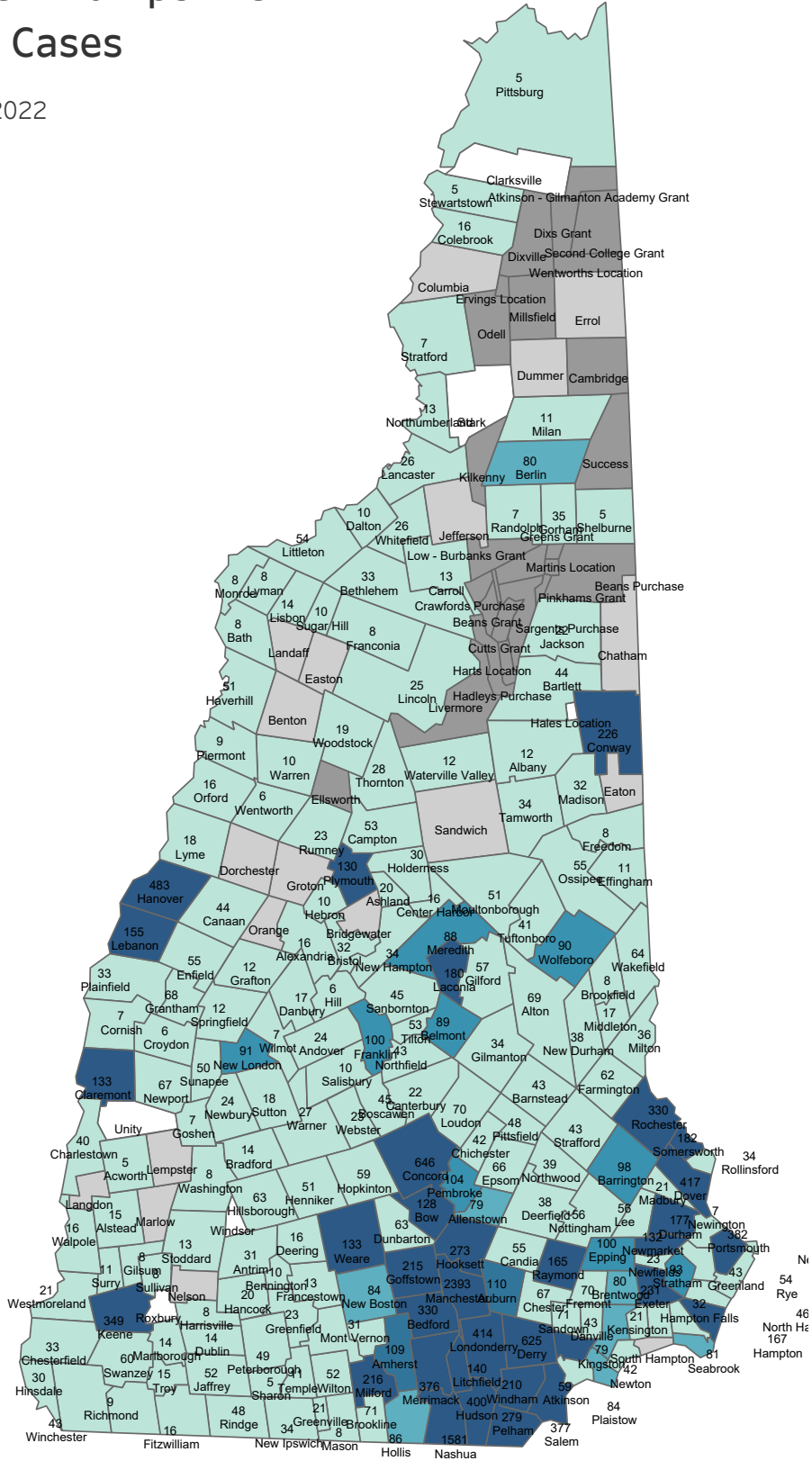
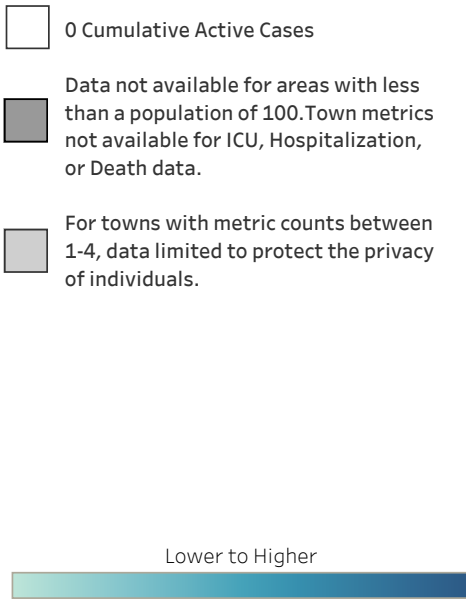
TBA

COVID-19 in New Hampshire: Active Cases

1/11/2022

Active Cases:
20458

Total Unknowns:
0



Data as of: 1/12/2022