



# WARE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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October 1, 2021

Ware Learning Community,

Happy Friday! As we work our way into the fall, the cold and flu season is right around the corner. Mixing that in with symptoms of COVID-19 may be difficult to determine what we are dealing with for students. Yesterday, WPS began our Safety Check Testing (Pooled Testing) Program at school for students, faculty, & staff. To provide us an additional layer of protection please consider having your child/ren tested weekly. The procedure is effortless as a swab is used to circle the inside of nostrils only, no digging up to the sinus cavity. You can view a video on how it is done at [www.wareps.org/news/whats\\_new/pooled\\_testing\\_video](http://www.wareps.org/news/whats_new/pooled_testing_video). Not only is it pain free, it is free of charge. Signing up for the Safety Check Testing Program can provide you the peace of mind as children attend school during a pandemic. Registration for testing can be found at [www.cic-health.com/consent/ma](http://www.cic-health.com/consent/ma).

The number of positive cases this week is 2 with 13 individuals who needed to quarantine due to being a close contact. Remember, another reason to have your child/ren take part in the Safety Check Testing Program is if they are exposed at school the nurse will be able to test them while here and as long as they do not test positive, they can stay in school! Ware Public Schools is taking part in the Test and Stay Option of the Safety Check Testing Program. This option will most certainly help with our goal of having an uninterrupted year! The more we can work together to protect ourselves and each other, the greater success we will have in reaching our goal.

Another way for us to protect each other and protect our time on learning with an uninterrupted year is through vaccination like the inoculations students must have to attend school. On Friday, October 15<sup>th</sup> the Wellness on Wheels (W.O.W.) Bus will be on campus for the Ware vs. Mahar football game from 5:00 - 7:30 p.m. to provide COVID-19 vaccinations, along with answering any questions people may have regarding vaccinations and other health initiatives.

On Monday, September 27, 2021 Commissioner Jeff Riley extended the mask mandate until November 1, 2021, at which time he will re-examine the state positivity rate to determine next steps. As a reminder, masks are still mandatory for all individuals on public transportation, which includes school buses.

Thank you for your assistance as we work to maintain health and safety for all!

Stay well,

*Dr. Marlene A. DiLeo*  
Superintendent

*Jennifer Knight*  
School Nurse Leader

## COVID-19 Symptom Checker

Ware Public Schools requires all students undergo a daily symptom checklist prior to arriving at school.

### Should I stay home?

1. Have you had a fever of 100.0F or higher in the past 24 hours?	Yes	No
2. Do you have any of the following symptoms? <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Cough (not due to other known cause, such as chronic cough)</li><li>● Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing</li><li>● Chills or shaking chills</li><li>● Fatigue when in combination with other symptoms</li><li>● Muscle or body aches</li><li>● Congestion or runny nose (not due to other known causes, such as allergies) <i>when in combination with other symptoms</i></li><li>● Sore throat</li><li>● Headache <i>when in combination with other symptoms</i></li><li>● New loss of taste or smell</li><li>● nausea/vomiting/diarrhea</li></ul>	Yes	No
3. Have you knowingly had close contact with an individual diagnosed with COVID-19 in the past 14 days?	Yes	No
4. Have you been asked to self-isolate or quarantine by your doctor or local Board of Health?	Yes	No

If you answered YES to any of the above questions, you must stay home from school and contact your healthcare provider for further guidance.

If you test positive for COVID-19, please contact the school nurse.

### PARENTS:

**IT IS IMPORTANT TO HAVE A PLAN IN PLACE IN THE EVENT YOUR CHILD IS ILL OR HURT AND NEEDS TO BE PICKED UP FROM SCHOOL (family, friend or neighbor)**

**PLEASE MAKE SURE ALL CONTACT INFORMATION (PHONE AND EMAIL) ARE CURRENT AND UPDATE THE SCHOOL IF THERE IS EVER A CHANGE**