



From: Duke Ellington School of the Arts <communications@ellingtonarts.org>
Subject: Principal Logan Note & Chancellor Ferebee Letter (Monday, 12/20/2021)
Date: December 20, 2021 at 9:35:06 PM EST
Reply-To: communications@ellingtonarts.org

Monday, December 20, 2021



Logan Note & Letter from Chancellor Ferebee: School Returns January 5, 2022

Dear Ellington Community,

We have been alerted to a number of positive cases at Ellington on Friday, throughout the weekend, and today. Our team has been working with staff to contact trace and identify all close contacts, as well as report the incidents so that official guidance can be issued. We should have the approved communications soon, but I wanted to let you know what has been going on, and that I appreciate the staff members who gave their time to these efforts today. If you think you or a student may be a close contact with one of these cases, please let us know.

Thank you,

Principal Logan



Dear DCPS Colleagues,

As we start the final week of classes this year, I want to acknowledge the real concerns and additional responsibilities associated with the pandemic.

We are seeing a city-wide and region-wide increase in COVID cases in our community. As

with previous community increases, we are seeing those trends reflected in the case counts within our schools. I want to assure you that we are monitoring all our schools closely and remain in constant communication with public health authorities.

Today, [Mayor Bowser announced a citywide action plan](#) with several DCPS impacts that I want to share with you:

Each school will receive a shipment of rapid antigen tests so that every student and staff member may be tested in support of a safe return from winter break. We will share more details about how to access those tests before the end of the year.

To ensure appropriate time for testing, [we are adjusting the school calendar in January. Monday, January 3 and Tuesday, January 4 will now be non-instructional days for students. This means there will be no classes for students](#), and staff and families will use those days to pick-up rapid antigen tests. Staff will receive additional information about the schedules and expectations for these days.

If further adjustments are needed to your school's opening based on the results of staff tests, we will communicate those as early as possible. **Families should currently plan for schools to reopen on Wednesday, January 5.**

Thank you to everyone who is working hard to implement our health and safety measures, and to each of you for doing your part. I urge you to get your booster shot if you are eligible. This is the most important step we can all take to slow the spread of the virus.

Please continue to keep safe. Please continue to always wear your mask around those outside your household, maintain social distancing to the extent possible, and stay home if you are presenting with any COVID-19 symptoms.

Again, thank you for everything you've done all school year to help support and educate our students in the face of these ongoing and difficult circumstances. I appreciate you.

Sincerely,

Lewis D. Ferebee, Ed.D.
Chancellor

FOUR WAYS TO GET TESTED

1 Make an appointment with your health care provider

2 Do an over-the-counter at-home test and log your results at coronavirus.dc.gov/overthecounter

3 Pick up and drop off a free at-home testing kit at any of the 27 sites coronavirus.dc.gov/testyourself

4 Go to a District-operated walk-up site listed on coronavirus.dc.gov/testing

Mayor Bowser has asked the Council to restore the District's emergency procurement authority so that DC can quickly ramp up testing, including more rapid tests.