## UPDATE A-2: SPRING COVID-19 UPDATE

April 26, 2022

Dear Families, Faculty and Staff,

I hope you had a wonderful April break! As we enter the final weeks of the school year, I want to share a brief update regarding the maintenance of our healthy school environments.

The Connecticut Department of Public Health has advised school administrators throughout the state that COVID-19 transmission rates have been steadily increasing. Due to recent holiday gatherings and travel associated with school break, it is anticipated that an increase in COVID-19 cases affecting students and staff in our schools is forthcoming.

The Brookfield Health Department and consulting pediatrician have advised the District of this same information.

Our District will continue mitigation strategies in our schools to limit COVID-19 risks during this time of increased community transmission (ventilation, cleaning protocols, spacing as practical, etc.).

Together, staff, students and families can help to reduce potential transmission risks by employing the following steps:

- Stay home if you are sick or feel unwell
- Vaccines: If your child has been vaccinated please provide your school nurse with a copy of the vaccine card to keep in their individual medical file.
- Masks remain optional: Please respect the decisions of staff and students who choose to wear a mask during the school day or not.
- Wear a mask when you are around other people during the following circumstances:
- 1. you are not feeling well
- 2. follow quarantine recommendations
- 3. you are at risk for severe COVID-19 complications
- Testing for COVID-19: Test for COVID-19 either using an at-home test kit, at a pharmacy or other testing site. If you need an at-home COVID-19 test kit, contact your child's school nurse and they will provide you with a kit (each test kit contains two tests).

• Contact your child's school nurse if you or your child test positive for COVID-19 or have had any contact with an individual who tested positive for COVID-19.

**Special Notes:** 

- Screen & Stay: Should your child be in a classroom which is experiencing a significant uptick in positive COVID cases, parents will be asked to 1) screen their children for symptoms before sending children to school and 2) asked to test their child for COVID to stem any possible school spread. Again, parents can request a test kit from the school nurse.
- In person parent meetings: As extra-curricular activities, athletics, field trips, etc. ramp up this spring, and as we continue to welcome more individuals back to our schools, it is important to remind you that should parents need to schedule a meeting for any reason with faculty or administration, the school will offer a remote meeting option via Google Meets. Regardless, if it is necessary to conduct the meeting in person, please inform the school team and arrangements will be made for an in person meeting.

Kind regards,

Dr. John W. Barile

Superintendent

The links below provide data and guidance utilized by our public health and medical authorities to help support the school district.

You can always keep informed of positive COVID cases in our schools by visiting the <u>District Dashboard</u> which is updated on Friday afternoons.

COVID-19 by County | CDC

Following quarantine guidance if you have a close contact with someone with COVID-19 either inside or outside of your household.