



January 3, 2021

Dear Faculty, Staff, and Parents,

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! While this holiday season was celebrated a little differently this year, I hope that you all enjoyed the time with your families.

As we return to in-person instruction in all of our schools this week I wanted to share with you how well our schools have done implementing our health mitigation plans; this is what has allowed us to continue to welcome our students back into the classrooms.

There is hope on the horizon, but it is vital that we all continue to remain vigilant while we continue to live with this active pandemic. While the percentage positivity rates have seen recent increases in some communities across the Commonwealth, our school communities have not seen significant exposures or positive cases. This is certainly attributed to our health screening efforts including daily temperature checks before anyone enters a school, the constant cleaning and disinfecting efforts, and the wearing of masks.

Each one of you have contributed to the efforts that have helped us remain in our classrooms and for that I am grateful. If anyone in your home is not feeling well, please stay at home and be evaluated by a healthcare provider. If anyone in your household has been tested for COVID-19 for any reason, please do not come to school or send students to school until the test result has been received. Please be mindful of gatherings with others outside of your household or hosting social events that could inadvertently expose others within your school community or the community at large. We ask that you continue to report any close contact/exposure or positive cases to the school.

The schools will continue to notify you of any COVID positive cases involving an employee or student. You will be notified directly if you or a child was in close contact with a positive individual. We are continuing to follow all the guidelines of the VDH; this currently includes the recommendation of remaining in quarantine (stay home) for 14 days after the date of last exposure with a person infected with COVID-19 and a 10 day isolation for those who have tested positive. We are constantly monitoring and evaluating trends within each school. If it is necessary to make a change from in-person to virtual instruction for an individual class, grade, or school we will make that decision in the best interest of everyone in the school community.

Thank you for your continued support and continued prayers for all those impacted by COVID-19.

Yours in Christ,

Kelly M. Lazzara
Superintendent of Schools