May 21, 2021

Dear Families and Staff,

Good afternoon. We are tremendously happy to report that we are entering our fourth week without a reported case of COVID in our school community. This is truly great news as we near the end of the school year and transition into the summer.

As anticipated, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Connecticut State Department of Health (DPH) and the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) issued updated guidance about mask mandates for the school setting. Masks must continue to be worn by students and staff while indoors and upon entering/exiting the school building through the remainder of the school year.

In reviewing with our health professionals the recommendations from the CDC, CSDE, and DPH; the sustained low two-week positivity rate (0.019%) in town; and, zero cases in schools over the past four weeks; effective immediately, **masks are no longer required for staff and students while outdoors or on school grounds.** Masks will still be required to be worn on buses. For all other events taking place outdoors and on school property, masks are no longer required, regardless of vaccination status.

This is an exciting milestone to be celebrated and bodes well for a return to a regular school year in the fall. Thank you for supporting the consistent use of mitigation strategies in the schools through the remainder of the school year.

Wishing you an enjoyable weekend,

Sincerely,

Dr. Alan Addley, Ed.D Superintendent of Schools

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