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December 3, 2021

Dear Bulldog Families,

I am writing to provide you with an important update related to the masking decision for the week of 12/6/21. As a reminder, the district is using our own internal data to guide our masking decisions. Finally, regardless of what is required in the schools, *it is still a Federal requirement that all drivers and riders wear a mask on district transportation vehicles*.

## Masking for the Week of 12/6/21

For next week (12/6 - 12/10) **masks will remain optional**. Our data trends indicate: 1) Reported positive COVID-19 cases remain low for our youngest learners (8 positive cases in grades K-5), 2) our staff cases continue to remain very low, and 3) the reported student cases continue to remain highest in grades 6-12. Families who have students in grades 6-12 should strongly consider having students wear a mask. While our numbers within the schools remain stable, our county and the Olmsted Community are continuing to see an increase in positive COVID-19 cases. We will continue to monitor data to help with decision making.

Positive COVID-19 Cases by	/ Buildina for OFCS	Students & Staff
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Data Source	Previous STUDENT Data for Week of 11/28/21	Current STUDENT Data for Week of 12/3/21	Previous STAFF Data for Week of 11/28/21	Current STAFF Data for Week of 12/3/21
Cases at the ECC	0	0	0	1
Cases at Falls-Lenox	2	5	0	0
Cases at OFIS	3	3	0	0
Cases at OFMS	6	8	0	1
Cases at OFHS	14	8	0	0
District Totals	25	24	0	2

## **<u>REMINDER:</u>** Changes in Communication Regarding Positive Cases / Close Contacts

As protocols evolve, it is important to ensure we are able to track and communicate information in the most efficient way possible. The district continues to update information on the OFCS COVID-19 Weekly Dashboard each Monday regarding the number of positive COVID cases and the number of exclusions among both our students and staff members. To streamline communication, buildings are no longer sending out notifications of positive cases for specific classrooms, school buses or extracurricular activities. Instead, all buildings are now using a close contact communication targeted specifically to the families of students who have been identified as a close contact of a fellow student or staff member who has tested positive for COVID. If you receive a close contact email, please do not ignore it. This important close contact with the positive individual and the time frame that your student must wear a mask per the new guidelines.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

James L. Lloyd

Jim Lloyd, Ed.D. Superintendent